Wayland Library
History
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[Miscellaneous History and Information about the Wayland Free Public Library]

Compiled by Phoebe Homans

Wayland Library Staff Member

In the 1970's and 1980's

Portraits in Library

Southwest balcony:	LYDIA MARIA CHILD 1802-1880	Eminant author of anti-slavery books Came to Wayland in 1852. Portrait presented by Mrs. Ellen B. Sears, wife of the Reverend Edmund Hamilton Sears.
Northwest balcony: (Left)	FRANCIS WAYLAND 1790-1865	President of Brown University. Benefactor of Wayland Library. Portrait presented by Charles Cutting.
Northwest balcony: (Right)	JAMES DRAPER 1787-1870	Leader in the community. Deacon of Unitarian Church for 43 years. Portrait presented by his son, James Sumner Draper.
Northeast balcony: (Left)	EDWARD MELLON 1802-1875	Wayland Judge. Friend of Francis Wayland. Portrait presented by James Sumner Draper.
West fireplace:	JOHN B. WIGHT 1815-1883	Minister of First Church. Aided in establish- ment of free public libraries. Portrait painted and presented by Mrs. Josephine H. Benney of Boston.
East fireplace:	WARREN G. ROBY 1834-1897	Provided funds for this library building, and the land - by 1898 bequest. Portrait painted by Lucy Haywood, a member of the Copley Society.

Library

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE WAYLAND FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Compiled and published
by the
Wayland Historical Society, Incorporated
1956

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THE

WAYLAND FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

The small sign in front of the Wayland Library tells all who stop to read it that this is the "First Free Public Library in Massachusetts. Founded in 1848."

Actually the library movement began here April 6, 1796 when the Reverend Josiah Bridge, pastor of the First Church in Wayland (which was then East Sudbury), organized the "East Sudbury Social Library." The original thirty-two members paid a membership fee of four dollars and a yearly assessment of twenty-five cents for the purchase of books. The first purchase was thirty-six volumes, but by 1832 the collection had grown to 227 volumes and was kept in the private homes of its successive librarians who were paid two dollars yearly for services. Its book of records and 82 of the volumes were transferred to the Wayland Public Library when it was founded.

In 1815 the Reverend John Burt Wight, of the First Parish, collected moral and religious books which were kept at the Church and were for the free use of the townspeople. This was known as the "East Sudbury Charitable Library." It increased by donations and purchases from contributions to about 300 volumes, and 71 of the books were later transferred to the Wayland Public Library.

The Common School Libraries were begun in 1845 when the town ordered the purchase of about sixty volumes to be kept in each of the six district schools for use of the students and others. The six collections were exchanged annually among the schools and thus were widely read. After the town library was established the school libraries were moved there by vote of the Town Meeting in 1851.

The start of the Wayland Free Public Library came about on Commencement Day at Brown University in 1847. The college president, the Reverend Francis Wayland, expressed to his good friend Judge Edward Mellen from Wayland, whom he often visited here, a wish to help establish a library in that town. The Reverend Wayland offered to give $500, provided the citizens of Wayland would raise an equal amount. The proposal was submitted at a Town Meeting held January 17, 1848 and an agent, Mr. James Sumner Draper, was appointed to canvass the town for subscriptions. Two hundred and eight persons subscribed the amount of $553.90, and at Town Meeting on March 6, 1848 articles "to hear any proposition respecting a library" — "to see if the Town will accept money" for a library were favorably acted upon and the town then held $1000 for a "Free Public Library."

Judge Mellen had expressed doubt about the right of a town to tax inhabitants for a public library. The Reverend John Burt Wight, who was at that time a state Representative, started action in the Legislature which resulted in the passing of the "Library Act" in May 1851 which made it legal for tax money of any city or town in the Commonwealth to "establish and maintain libraries for the use of the inhabitants thereof."

Old records say that shortly "a Library room was completed but was unsuitable and was not accepted"; so a committee was appointed to "prepare a room in a proper and convenient place." In June 1850 a room was ready for use in the Town House (now Collins Market) and a librarian chosen at a yearly salary of one hundred dollars to be paid by the town. The first books were given out on August 7, 1850 on a Saturday afternoon,

probably, as the library was open only on Saturday afternoons and evenings. A regulation of the times stipulated that any resident of the town, over the age of fourteen, might take out one book at a time, but no family might have more than three at one time.

A "Library Celebration" took place on August 26, 1851, expenses being paid by the town. The Reverend Francis Wayland was, of course, the guest of honor. "A most interesting occasion it was from several reasons. First, from the cause that originates it. This cause was most justly stated in the following words, by Dr. Wayland to Judge Mellen, the president of the day, while witnessing the people old and young, crowding the church in which the celebration was held, in every available place. 'This gives me a higher idea of New England character than any thing I have before witnessed. Your inhabitants have assembled without distinction of age or sex, to celebrate, with joyful festivities, not any great victory, not any great political event, *but the founding of a library.*'" Judge Mellen gave an address of thanks to Dr. Wayland, and in replying Dr. Wayland said, "Our fathers founded schools where we are taught to read; when we know how to read we want something to read — we want books."

In 1874 a reading room was established in Cochituate, books being supplied from the main Library for Cochituate readers. This reading room was maintained for many years in rented quarters in a business block on Main Street until very recently when it was moved to modern quarters in the new municipal building.

In 1878 a more generous Town Meeting allowed $462 for books and $150 for the librarian and an assistant. There was also an appropriation of $5.44 for a library clock. About that time many "works of art" were presented; these included the oil portrait of the Reverend John Burt Wight which now hangs over the fireplace on the right as one enters the reading room, and a picture of Francis Wayland which hangs to the left of the clock as one stands at the desk and looks up. Also presented were a number of India ink portraits, some of which still hang in the Library. Many Wayland residents gave books to the Library. One of the most prolific writers of her day, Mrs. Lydia Maria Child, whose home still stands on Old Sudbury Road, presented a copy of one of her books (*Progress of Religious Ideas,* 3 vols.) in 1855; after her death in 1880 her estate gave thirty-two more, so the Wayland Library has a valuable set of her works and a fine collection of her letters.

The Library has been benefitted greatly by several trust funds established by persons interested in its growth. Among them are James Sumner Draper, Ella E. Draper, Sarah Webster Heard, Lydia Maria Child, Grace Campbell Draper, Cynthia G. Roby, Harriet Coburn Damon, Ada H. Wellington, Jonathan M. Parmenter, Isaac C. Damon, and Francis Shaw. Some of these trust funds were established for books, some for maintenance, and one was for "books other than Novels."

In 1879 the Library was moved at a cost of $20 to "new, commodions and pleasant apartments" in the new Town Hall (the present one). In 1896 Mr. Warren Gould Roby, prominent Wayland citizen, whose portrait hangs in the reading room opposite the Reverend Wight's, gave the town $10,000 and land on which to build a library building. The architect was Mr. Samuel Mead of Weston of the firm of Cabot, Everett & Mead. The result of that generous gift was our present fine building which was dedicated in 1900. The Shaw Room in the basement of the library is available for group meetings and was established in memory of Mr. Francis Shaw who contributed much to the library during its formative period.

Mr. Henry Wight served as librarian during the first fifteen years, and was succeeded in 1865 by Mr. James Sumner Draper, who held the position for twenty years. Mrs. John Heard took over from him in 1885 and served until 1901 when Mrs. Mabel T. S. Small carried on in the new building until 1903. Miss Margaret Wheeler gave continu-

ous service for thirty-nine years from January 1, 1903 until her death on December 31, 1941. This is an extraordinary record of devotion to service from its citizens to the Town of Wayland — five librarians in 92 years!

In July 1944 the Friends of the Wayland Library were organized with the purpose of furthering interest in and use of the Library.

Wayland citizens have reason to be proud of their Library and the long history behind it. There are many comments on its attractive appearance and friendly atmosphere; the annual circulation has grown to about 38,000. It houses a collection of over 30,000 volumes, particularly rich in local history and the fine arts. Quoting again from Dr. Wayland's letter to Judge Mellen, anticipating the beginning of the first library in this state, "How noble beyond expression the prospect which it opens" . . . this effort "is by no means little if by example it should be permitted to spread and cover the soil of New England, so that every man amongst us should have an abundant supply of intellectual food. Who can estimate its results upon our country. If every man who goes out from New England bears with him these ideas and considers the means of intellectual culture a necessary of life, what may we not expect from such a spirit . . . What is to become of this country no one can foretell but let us labor with our whole strength, as God shall give us opportunity, to lay the foundation of its moral and intellectual character so broadly and so firmly that no contingency within the range of human prescience can render it other than an intelligent and virtuous people. This granted we may leave the results to Providence." Even before Dr. Wayland's inspiring letter the founders of that first "Social Library" expressed the conviction that much of our "happiness depends on the General diffusion of useful Knowledge by the free use of well chosen books."

SOURCES

Proceedings at Dedication of Town Hall, Dec. 24, 1878.

Heard, Jared M., *Origin of the Free Public Library System of Massachusetts,* Clinton, Mass., 1860.

Annual Report of Library Commission 1874–1875.

Wayland Town Reports 1878–1879, 1879–1880, 1900–1901, 1902, 1941, 1945, 1954.

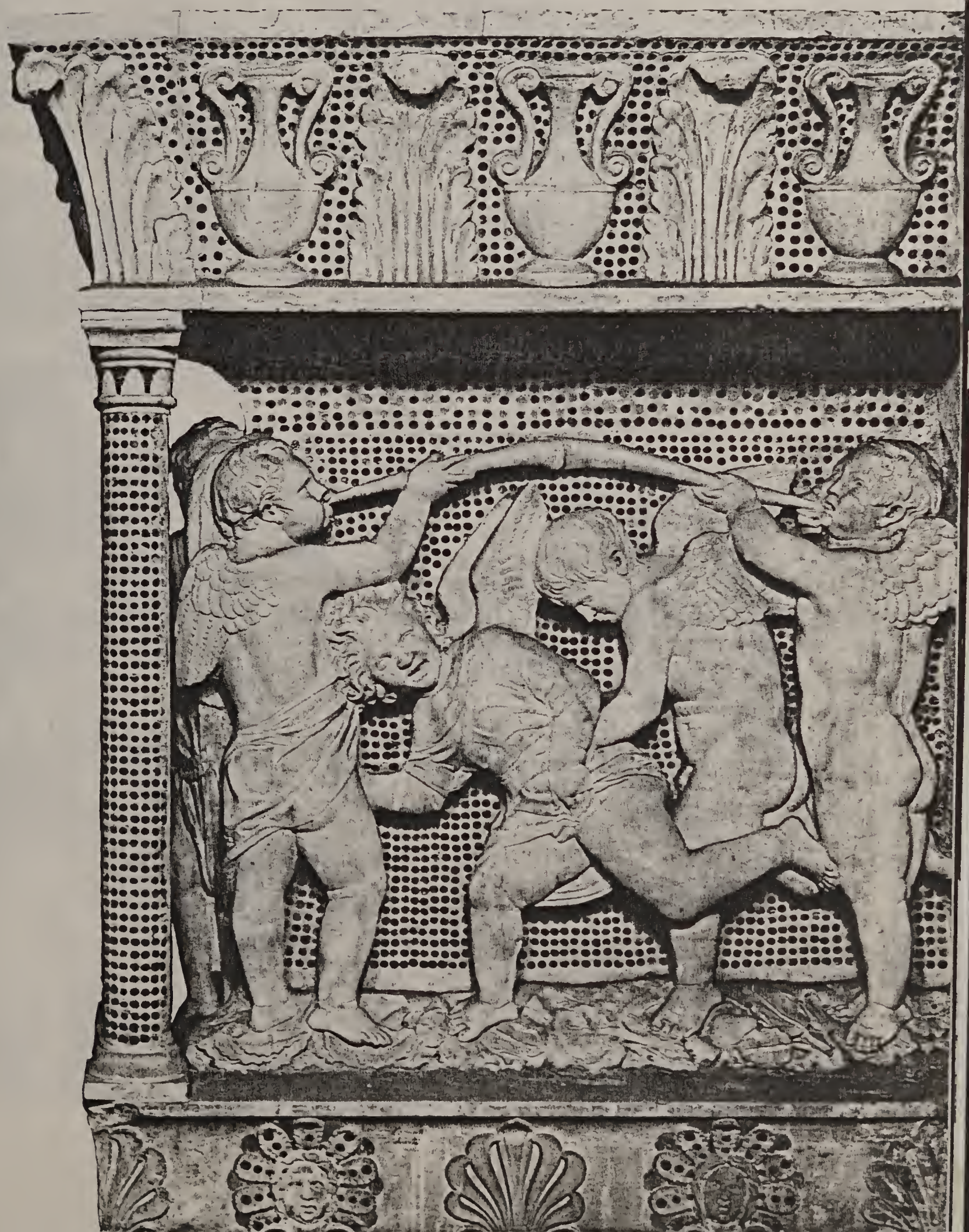
Original documents, letters and records on file.

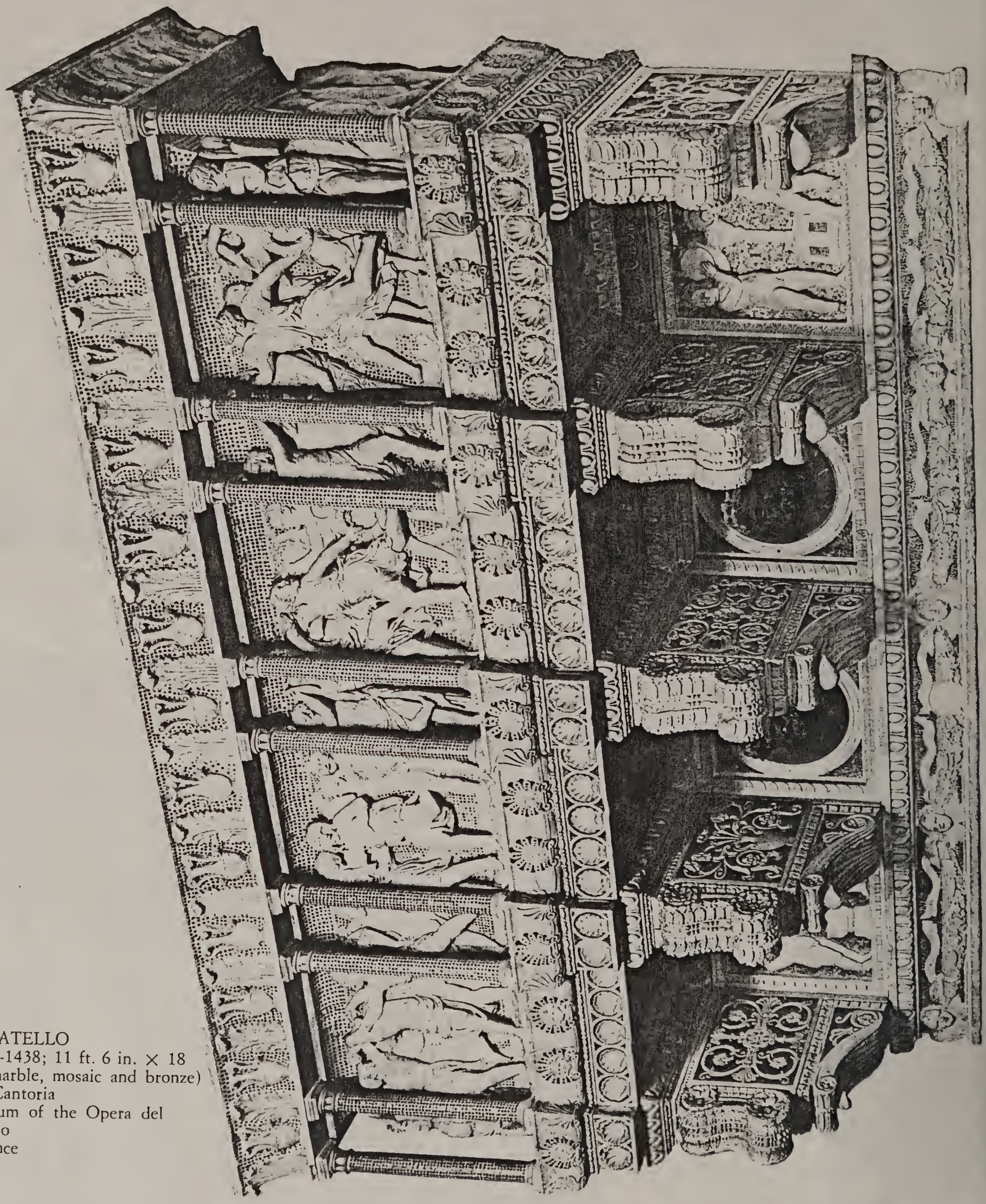
Originals of library's plaster "Cantoria"

from Bertelà, Il Duomo Donatello Scala Books

◀
DONATELLO
Cantoria, details of front,
at left and right
Museum of the Opera del
Duomo
Florence

▼
DONATELLO
Cantoria, detail of side, right
Museum of the Opera del
Duomo
Florence





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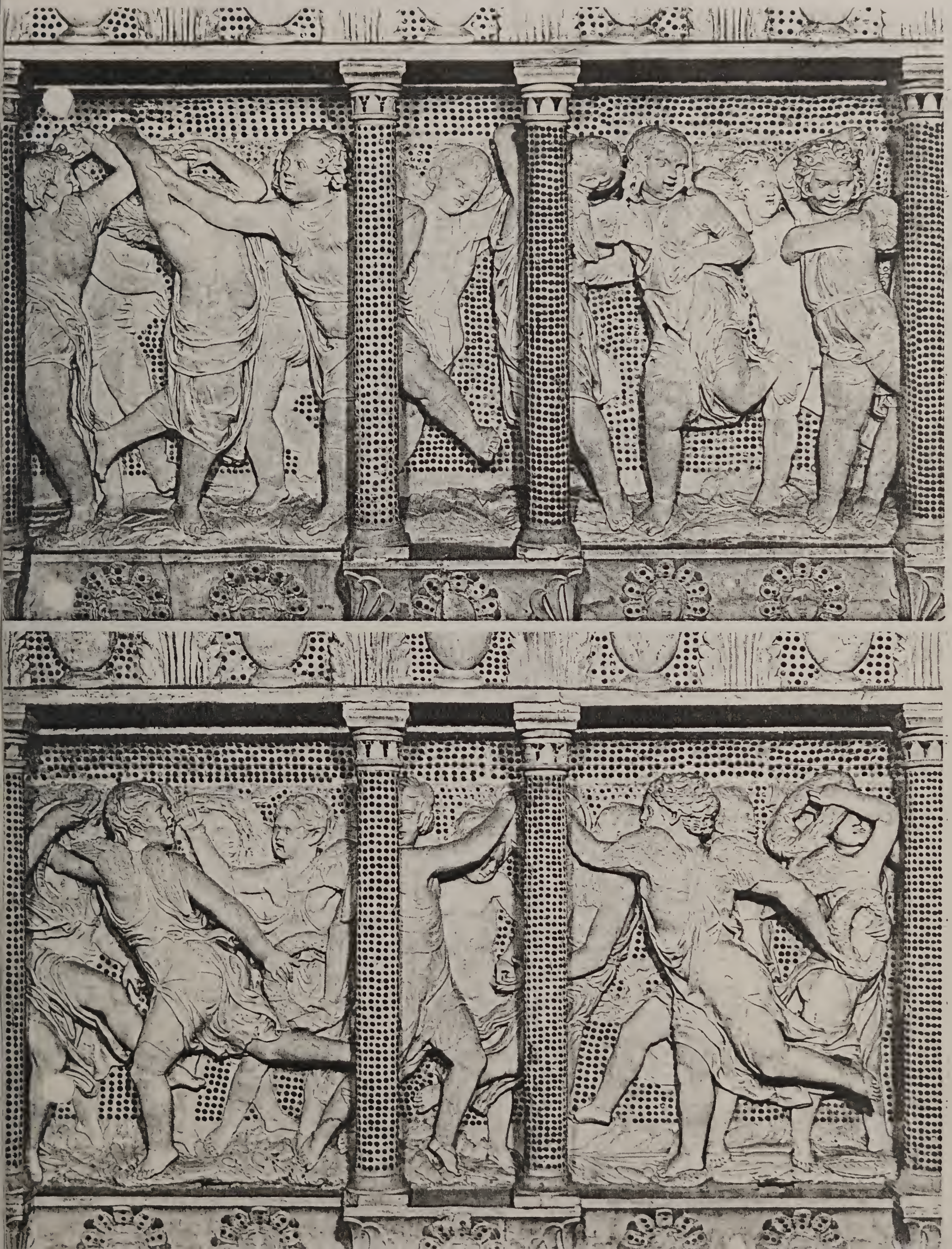
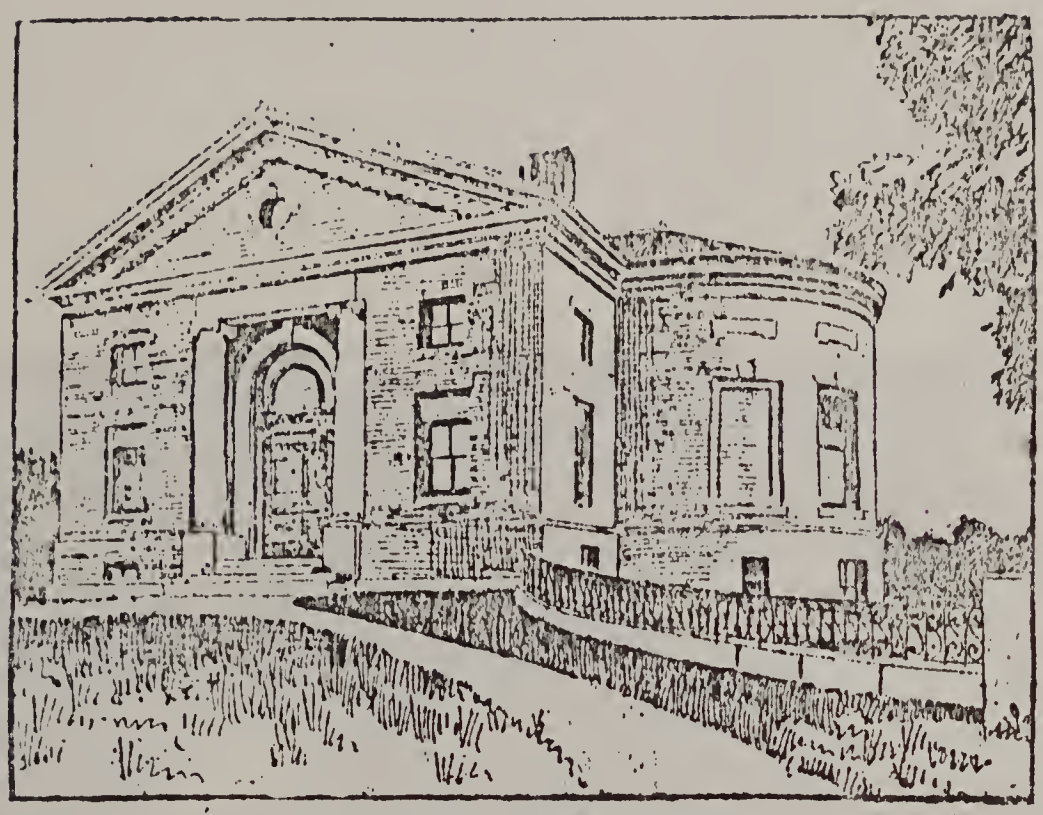
DONATELLO
(1433-1438; 11 ft. 6 in. × 18 ft.; marble, mosaic and bronze)
The Cantoria
Museum of the Opera del Duomo
Florence



FIRST FREE LIBRARY IN STATE.

Dedication of Wayland's New Building Has Been Postponed.



WAYLAND'S NEW PUBLIC LIBRARY.

WAYLAND, Aug 7—It has long been Wayland's boast that in its possession of historical points and memories, it is richer than many a larger New England town, and today has marked an event which serves to strengthen this belief in the minds of the townspeople. Fifty years ago today was established in Wayland the first free public library in Massachusetts, and the second in the United States.

There is much to convince the skeptical as to the truth of this assertion, particularly the large bronze tablet which occupies the center of a huge rock lying on the common in front of the town hall, and facing the spot where the library was first located. The tablet says: "In commemmoration of the establishment by the town of Wayland of the first free public library in Massachusetts and the second in the United States, Aug 7, 1850."

The residents rejoice this evening for a more substantial reason than that suggested by their historical preeminence, for a new building, much more suitable than any other structure in the town, is about to be opened to tell the story of Wayland's part in the country's educational progress.

Unfortunately the plans of those in charge of the construction of the building have miscarried, and a long program of exercises arranged for today were necessarily abandoned. It is believed, however, that within three weeks the structure will be in readiness for dedication.

The disappointment has been less keenly felt today than would ordinarily have been the case, as a public gathering, under the auspices of Pequad lodge, 229, I. O. O. F., of Wayland, assisted by the Wayland band, was held. A lawn party and open air concert were, however, given up, on account of the evening's showers.

Within the hospitable walls of Odd Fellows hall there was an enjoyable dancing party, to which many residents of this town and neighboring places took part. There was not one in the large company who overlooked the day's historical importance, and there was frequent reference to it.

Occupying the center of a beautiful stretch of green field, and with a luxuriant maple grove for its background, the new Wayland free public library building stands on a most picturesque site. It is only a short distance from the original site.

In 1850 the town was known as East Sudbury, but later received the name Wayland out of compliment to Prof Wayland of Brown university.

The late Judge Mellen used to entertain as his guests Pres Brown of Brown university and Hon Rockwood Hoar of Concord (both deceased). Judge Mellen's home still remains as an historic place on Main road.

It was in the minds of the remarkable trio that the idea of establishing a library was born. Immediately upon learning of the scheme Prof Wayland donated $500. The measure was put through the general court by Rev John B. Wright, who then represented the district. The founding of the library on Aug 7, 1850, followed soon after and there were many substantial donations.

The original library occupied a part of the old town hall until 1878, but in that year was transferred to the basement of the present town hall building.

About two years ago the late Warren G. Roby provided before his death plans for a $28,000 structure and the land upon which it was to rest. His death took place shortly after his ideas were made known, but the work was carried on, following out the provisions of the will. Wayland's citizens believe the new library to be a fitting monument to the generosity of their fellow townsman and regret that he could not have lived to see it completed.

The building, which is of Grecian architecture, is constructed of red brick, with trimmings of granite. Cabot, Everett & Mead of Weston were the architects, and Fales & Co of Framingham the builders.

Ornamenting the entrance are two massive granite columns, while the beauty of the exterior is accentuated by a roof of Spanish tiling.

The interior impresses one with the perfect harmony of character and design. The largest apartment is the reading room. Two magnificent Corinthian columns flank its entrance, while the mural decorations are elaborate, the chief figures of ornamentation being seraphs in bas relief.

The woodwork and furnishings are of ash, and the shelves and delivery desks are constructed of the same wood. There are fireplaces in both the reading and delivery rooms.

There are niches where busts will be placed, and two oil paintings donated by Mr Roby are to be displayed upon the wall. Other appropriate ornamentations form a part of the wall friezes. Figures representing the triumphant march of education stand in bas relief. There is also a scroll between the delicately tinted portions of the wall.

The librarian will have an office on the first floor. The basement contains several useful rooms, including one for trustees, another for the storage of bicycles, lavatories, boiler and engine room. There have been installed throughout the building all appointments for electric lighting.

The new library will have a capacity of 40,000 volumes, exceeding that of the present one by 25,000. The books are soon to be removed from the old building, and there will be many hundreds of additional volumes to fill the shelves.

Wa and mass
history

WAYLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

Founded in 1848.
First Free Public Library in Massachusetts.
Second Free Public Library in United States.

dedicated - 1900

Photograph by Willard B. Dik

Wayland Library

Wayland Hike
1975
Original in Cafe

Written by Helen Morse
Courtesy of Lineage
Member of Historical Society

written by Helen Morgan
trustee of library
member of Historical Society

The small sign in front of the Wayland library announces to all who stop to read it, ~~that~~ this is the "First Free Public Library in Massachusetts". Founded in 1848." Actually the library movement began here in 1796 when the Rev. Josiah Bridge, pastor of the First Church in Wayland (which was then East Sudbury) was the leader in establishing the "East Sudbury Social Library". Each of the original thirty-two members of the association paid a membership fee of four dollars and a yearly assessment of twenty-five cents with which to purchase books. The librarian kept the volumes at his or her home and was paid two dollars, yearly, for services.

Later, the Rev. John B. Wright collected moral and religious books which were kept at the Unitarian church and were for the free use of all the towns people. This collection was known as the East Sudbury Charitable Library. It is said that by 1832 these two collections ~~numbered~~ three hundred books and were the beginning of what later became the Wayland Library. In 1843 the Town provided each of the six school districts with about sixty volumes ~~each~~; after the town library was established the school libraries were placed there, by vote of town meeting in 1851.

The start of the Wayland Free Public Library came on commencement day at Brown University in 1847. The college president, Reverend Francis Wayland, expressed to Judge Mellen, his good friend from Wayland, Massachusetts, a wish to help establish a library in that town. Rev. Wayland offered to give five hundred dollars, providing the citizens of Wayland would raise an equal amount. There is a difference of opinion as to when and why our town was named Wayland. The most reasonable explanation seems to be that when East

to be incorporated into a town (in 1850) a number of names were suggested. Judge Mellen's suggestion of "Wayland" in honor of his friend who loved this town and spent much time visiting here, was adopted. This fact would seem to explain Rev. Waylands continuing interest and the reason he may have chosen to give such a gift to the town some years later. Five hundred and thirty-four dollars was quickly raised by subscription; a paper with many signatures and the amount of each donation for this cause, may be seen at the Library now. A committee was chosen to confer on ways and means of furthering the project — names of committee members are still represented in town — Mellen, Reeves, Heard and Sherman are all familiar here now.

At Town meeting March 6, 1848 articles "to hear any proposition respecting a Library" — "to see if the Town will accept money" — "To see if the Town will provide a suitable room or building" — were favorably acted upon and the Town held one thousand dollars for a Free Public Library. Old records say that shortly "a Library Room was completed but was unsuitable and was not accepted" — so a committee was appointed to "prepare a room in a proper and convenient place". On June 1850 a room was ready for use; a Librarian was chosen, his salary of one hundred dollars to be paid by the Town. The first books were delivered to the public on August 7, 1850 — Saturday afternoon, presumably, as the Library was only open Saturday afternoon and evening. A regulation of that time stated that any resident of the Town, over the age of fourteen, might take out one book at a time — but no family might have more than three volumes at one time.

Judge Mellen had expressed doubt about the right of a Town to tax inhabitants for a public library — in his

pension, so such right existed. The Rev. John Wright (whose descendants are still using our library) continued his interest and being at that time a State Representative he started action. Through his efforts the "Library Act" was passed by the Legislature in May 1851. this act made it legal for tax money to be spent for the support of public libraries.

A "Library Celebration" took place on August 26, 1851, expenses paid by the Town. Reverend Francis Wayland was the guest of honor. Judge Mellen gave an address of thanks to Dr. Wayland at exercises held in the church. In replying, Rev Wayland said", Our fathers founded schools where we are taught to read; when we know how to read we want something to read — we want books"— and from that time on the town began to have an increasing number of books.

From the beginning the Library was popular— in 1874 a reading room was established in Cochituate, books being carried over there from the main Library for Cochituate readers. It was the practise to call in all books at the end of the year to be counted. Old reports mention such facts as "all accounted for except one" which was missing last year"; "one book loaned to a foreigner was never brought back", and then some time years later "one volume returned after an absence of twelve years". In 1853 a regulation was adopted providing that "no book can be kept more than four weeks at one time under penalty of 10% of the original cost for each week's delay". Evidently Librarians of those days had the same trouble as to-days — if the old regulation had been continued and enforced it might have made a substantial increase in Library funds available!

demand for new books, particularly fiction". Perhaps the law reports and public documents were not popular reading for the Librarian says "light reading is beneficial at times" but the library committee "tried to guard against improper publications." He goes on to say "If the wants of the Public are not met by the Library, it will seek other ways and means (of entertainment) even if less desirable;" he was of the opinion that "the Library should be managed for the good of the largest number" and that could only be accomplished by "furnishing books they desire, which are not immoral or impure". "A safe book for a public library," he says, "is one which shows the evil consequences of wrong and vicious..." The Library Committee examined all books and "... as possible guarded the shelves from all books ... unworthy."

James Sumner Draper, was Waylands first ... he served for twenty years at an infinitesimal ... and in 1863 he established a fund of $500 for the purchase of books — that fund is still providing a part of our book purchase account. There are two other funds in his name and, still, others in the names of Lydia Maria Child, Grace Campbell Draper, Sarah Webster Heard, Cynthia C Robey, Harriett Coburn Damon, Adah H. Wellington, Jonathon H. Parmenter, Isaac C Damon and Francis Shaw. Some of these trust funds were for books, some for maintenance, one was for "books other than novels". One amount was restricted for the use of Wayland only, if any was spent for Cochituate the sum was to be withdrawn. Happily that sectional antagonism has become a thing of the past.

In 1879 the library was "moved to new, ~~and~~ commodious and pleasant apartments" in the new Town Hall (the present Town Hall) - having been located in the old Town Hall (now Collins' Store, during previous years. The cost of moving all the books across the street was twenty dollars - the next years report mentions the cost of "washing the floor and ~~to~~ gas fixt[ures]" as [illegible] five cents. In this year [illegible] appropriated to build a cabinet "for deposit of specimens of mineralogy &c". The cabinet built in 1880 cost [illegible] dollars and has been in use until recently [illegible] of the library. Unfortunately ~~as~~ many of the specimens were taken away from the case ~~that~~ the remaining ones were removed and are now on loan at the High School for use in the science classes.

Not until the 1892-3 report was it recommended that the library remain open two afternoons and two evenings each week. The librarian seems to have found the duties increasing and she complained that no work could be done there except on open days as no heat was provided at other times. Not until 1947 was the library opened for five days a week - it having been three days up to that time, and ~~within~~ beginning in ~~December~~ November of this year it has become a full time, six day a week library.

Mr Warren Robey, prominent Wayland citizen, whose portrait hangs in the reading room opposite the [illegible] gave the town ten thousand dollars in 1896, to build a Free Public Library building. The architect was Orr.

our present library, was dedicated in
The old reading room in Cochituate has now been replaced by an attractive branch library in the new building which also houses the fire, police and welfare departments for Cochituate.

Wayland citizens have reason to be proud of their library and the long history behind it. Many people comment on the attractive appearance and friendly atmosphere in our libraries. Our circulation has grown from 6,996 — the earliest figure available — to about 36,000 this year Our appropriation has risen considerably above that of $100.00 in 1850. The librarians salary has sky rocketed from the two dollars paid by the East Sudbury Sociall Library and the one hundred dollars per year received by Mr Draper. We still feel, as the founders of that first Sociall Library expressed it, that much of our "happiness depends on the General diffusion of useful knowledge by the free use of well chosen books" and it is hoped that the Wayland Free Public Library will always continue to contribute to the happiness of Wayland men, women and children. As circulation increases, facilities expand and usefulness grows it is hoped that the friendly spirit will always remain and the enthusiastic co-operation of those founders had in 1796 and 1850 will continue from this and future generations of Waylandtownspeople.

Wayland history

Gift to Wayland started state - wide

by HOWARD S. RUSSELL

.elephone call is the basis my column today. A recent "Crier" recorded the award by Brown University of the "President Francis Wayland Prize for Excellence in Latin" to a local young lady, Miss Martha Browne, a student at Pembroke, the university's women's affiliate. Explaining that the family had moved to this area only two years ago, Miss Browne's mother enquired whether, in another coincidence of names, the town of Wayland might have been so called in honor of the University's eminent president of over a century ago.

No, I told her, East Sudbury had been renamed Wayland back in 1835. Yet, Brown's distinguished head was an important figure in the town's development, and as a result, in the history of education in Massachusetts and the nation. For it was a gift from President Wayland that brought about not only the founding of Wayland's public library back in 1850, but set in motion the whole public library system of Massachusetts, with far-hing influence beyond.

n James Audubon, you will .l, gave Massachusetts the e of "the reading state," and libraries of a sort had been started in many places here and elsewhere in New England back in the 1700's. In fact, it was the eager intelligence of a Boston-born boy transplanted to Philadelphia, Benjamin Franklin, that in 1731 sparked America's first subscription library of importance, the Library Co. of Philadelphia.

New England itself was only a step behind. In northeast Connecticut citizens of Pomfret began a subscription library in 1732; Durham in central Connecticut organized a book company the next year. Four towns along the Sound and one in northern Connecticut had circulating libraries before the decade was out. The Pomfret group, reinforced by two adjoining towns, called itself "The United Company for Propagating Christain and Useful Knowledge." It may have been partly a consequence that about this time Yale graduated nine Pomfret boys in one year!

At Newport in Rhode Island a chant's munificent gift opened famous Redwood Library in .7. Providence followed in 1763, with smaller towns added later.

Coming into Massachusetts, where by this time several private libraries ran into the thousands of volumes, the first circulating was Salem's in 1760, but several more were counted preceding the Revolution. Before the century was out local circulating libraries sprouted through the country towns in all directions, including our neighbors Marlborough, Hopkinton, Medfield, and doubtless others. Maine and Vermont were not left behind; and in New Hampshire the historian Jeremy Belknap in 1792 called these "social libraries," as they were designated, "the cheapest and most effective mode of diffusing knowledge among the people." A Spanish visitor, stopping at a New England rural tavern just after the Revolution, was astounded to find his landlady reading Rollins' "Ancient History," and ready to compare Franklin with Aristotle!

The moving spirit behind these subscription libraries, supported by yearly dues or the sale of stock, was often the town parson; and it is to two well-educated divines that our local library in Wayland owes its birth in 1850. Another minister served on the committee that set up "Weston Town Library" in 1857.

Now for how the tax-supported public library came about. The first American public library to receive support from public taxation is generally acknowledged to have been that of Peterborough, New Hampshire, organized in 1833. Besides collecting a small membership fee, the town designated part of its share of the state bank tax to buy books. The second in the nation, first however in Massachusetts, was Wayland's. Which takes us back to the president of Brown and the Latin prize first mentioned.

At a Brown commencement in 1847, Dr. Francis Wayland, the college's president, proposed to his friend, Judge Edward Mellen of Wayland, till recently East Sudbury, that he would donate $500 for a town library for his namesake, provided the townspeople would match his gift. (When you realize that prices of butter at 20 cents per lb., cheese at 10 cents, and potatoes at 50 cents per bushel were then deemed high you realize the value of the offer.) Within a month of the start of the campaign, J. Sumner Draper and his committee had matched the sum from 205 donors. The town accepted both gifts with gratitude, and in 1850 the committee lodged the books in a room in the town hall and opened the library.

But how was it to be supported? The laws of the Commonwealth strictly define the purposes for which a town may raise tax money, and the purchase of books and maintaining them was not among them. Wayland's representative to the General Court, Rev. John B. Wight, provided the answer. In 1850 he introduced a bill to add establishment and maintenance of a public library to the powers permitted to municipalities. The legislature made it into law; the first such statute in the nation. The founding of Boston's great Public Library promptly followed. Weston's, in 1857, was one of the earliest among town libraries.

Four decades after the openi Wayland's library numbered 75 books, a large total for those day but hardly to be compared wi the splendid collections to be fou today in both towns, not to mentio the resources of the school li raries then unthought of.

Which brings up the questi a pertinent one in these days so much growling about high loc

[redacted]

Do we New Englanders half ate the value to our com- s of these excellent lib- found not only in our great uch as Boston, or in sub- centers of well-read people, s Weston and Wayland, but hundreds of our country which taxed themselves for generations before Andrew gie thought of distributing illions?

[redacted]

n. d.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF WAYLAND LIBRARY

In 1648, the Reverend Edmund Brown, with a band of colonists recently arrived from England, established a settlement on the east bank of the Sudbury River, known as "Sudbury Plantation". Among the belongings moved to Mr. Brown's log house was his scholarly collection of 130 books, which he shared with those who were able to read.

In 1796, the Reverend Josiah Bridge of the First Parish Church, organized the "East Sudbury Sociall Library", starting with a collection of 36 volumes, a budget of $128.00 per year, a book account of $8.00, and a $2.00 per annum salary for the librarian. The collection, which by 1832 had grown to 224 volumes, was housed in the home of successive librarians.

In 1815, the Reverend John Burt Wight, intellectual and energetic pastor of The First Parish Church, which until the Separation Act of 1822, had also served as part of the town governing body, established a collection of "moral and religious books" to be kept at the church and freely used by the townspeople. Called the East Sudbury Charitable Library - this collection actually became the town's first public access library, and became part of the later Wayland Library collection, together with the circulating collection of 60 volumes, shared by the 6 district schools, and known as the Common School Libraries.

In 1847, Judge Edward Mellen of Wayland (the name was changed from East Sudbury in 1835) received a generous offer from his friend, the Reverend Dr. Francis Wayland, president of Brown University, who was fond of the little town which bore his name. He offered the sum of $500.00 to establish a free public library, if residents would raise an equal sum. Town Meeting records of March 6, 1848 document the raising of $553.90 by the townsfolk, and Dr. Wayland's "matching grant" was accepted. On August 7, 1850, the Wayland Free Public Library was opened, the first public library in Massachusetts and second in the United States.

The Reverend John Burt Wight, aged 61, and at that time Wayland's Representative to the General Court, lobbied successfully for the enactment by the State Legislature, in May 1851 of the "Library Act" making it legal for tax monies to be used in the establishment and maintenance of libraries.

The 1850 collection was settled in a room of the Town House, now Collins' Market. It was opened to the public on every Saturday afternoon and evening. Any resident of the town over fourteen could take out a book, but no family could borrow more than three at a time. In 1879, the growing collection was moved, with other town departments, to a new Town Hall (now demolished).

In 1896, Mr. Warren Gould Roby of Wayland, gave the town $10,000 and a gift of land for a library building. The architect was Mr. Samuel Mead of Weston, of the firm of Cabot, Everett and Mead. The present building, designed in the then popular Italian Romanesque style, was opened in 1900, and is now Wayland's oldest public building.

While proud of our library's interesting past, the staff and Trustees of the Wayland Free Public Library look to the future well being and vitality of the institution, bearing in mind the statement made 127 years ago by the Reverend Wight:

"Happiness depends on the general diffusion of useful knowledge by the free use of well chosen books."

By Betty Schwartzer,
Trustee
1978

FIRST PUBLIC LIBRARY

Established In Wayland In 1848 Through Gift By Francis Wayland

The Wayland Free Public Library was the pioneer of the free town libraries in Massachusetts. So wrote C. B. Tillinghast, chairman of the Free Public Library Commission of Massachusetts, nearly fifty years ago, and Horace E. Scudder even earlier reported to the Legislature that there seemed "to be no doubt that the public library in Wayland was the first in Massachusetts to be supported by public funds and free to the inhabitants".

This proud distinction of Wayland among all the cities and towns of the Commonwealth has, curiously enough, hardly been alluded to in the best-known histories of the town. Even the delightful monograph on "Old Time Wayland" by the late Alfred Wayland Cutting is silent about it. But without question Wayland opened the trail in the matter of free public libraries, with Concord, Groton and Boston quick to follow — but only after the legislature had passed a law authorizing towns to use the taxpayers' money for such a purpose. Wayland, greatly daring, had anticipated this law by venturing in 1848, over the protest of some timid souls in the community, to lay a tax on the people to maintain a library free to every inhabitant. But the town fathers, fearing that they might be charge with assuming dictatorial powers by such a proceeding, modified the resolution and gave the individual taxpayer the option of paying or not paying the library assessment.

It was in 1835 that East Sudbury —the original settlement out of which Sudbury developed — took the name of Wayland out of compliment to the Rev. Francis Wayland, president of Brown University, and set up housekeeping for himself. Somewhat later Dr. Wayland expressed a wish to do something for the town that had honored him, and after consultation with Wayland's leading citizen, the Hon. Edward Mellen, chief justice of the Massachusetts Court of Common Pleas, he made the town fathers a gift of $500 towards the establishment of a public library, on condition that the town raise another $500 to go with it. The gift was accepted at a town meeting held March 6, 1848. It was during the next year that the Rev. John B. Wight, Wayland's minister and also a member of the Legislature, put through a bill enabling towns to raise money for the support of free public libraries out of the general tax levy.

Something in the air of Wayland inspired movements of this kind or nourished greatness. Judge Mellen, the Rev. Edmund Sears who gave the world two great hymns, the grandparents of the late General Leonard Wood, David and Lydia Maria Child, the Rev. John B. Wight — these are a few of the names associated with the Wayland of a century ago.

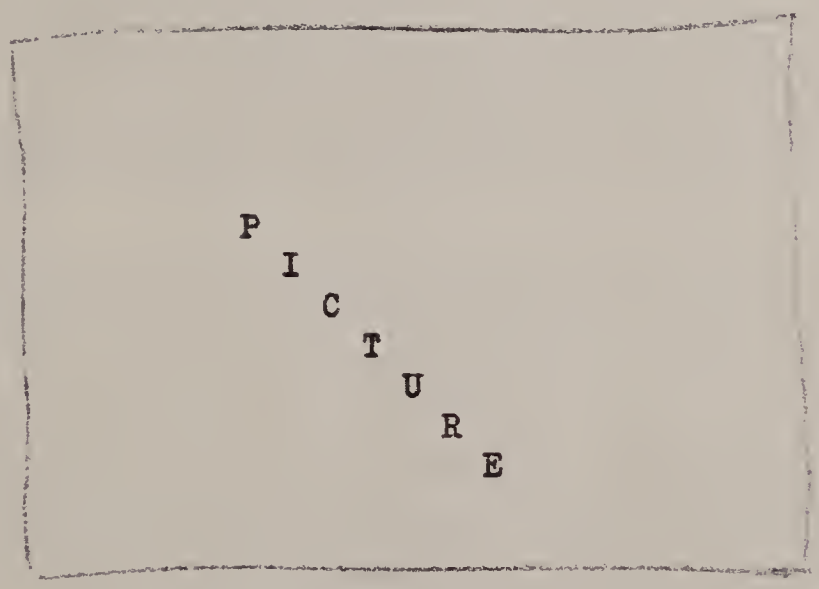
The Historical Sources Survey, a White Collar project of the Works Progress Administration, is now engaged in bringing to light unpublished material concerning the early history of Wayland — letters, diaries, account books and the like. The purpose of the project is to catalogue these papers and to make accurate copies of them to insure the preservation of their contents. These copies will be deposited in the Massachusetts State Library and the Library of Congress. One copy will be presented to the owners or custodians of the papers.

The town officers of Wayland have shown great interest in the project and Mr. Arthur Heard Dudley, representing the Selectmen, and Miss Margaret E. Wheeler, librarian of the Wayland Public Library, have been most helpful in placing material at the disposal of the workers on the project. Already some manuscripts have been found which throw fresh light upon Wayland's honored past. It is hoped that others in private hands or in the care of historical and patriotic societies may be discovered and made part of the public record of

1930s ?
Source unknown.

Wayland Library - History

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE WAYLAND FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY



Compiled and published

by the

Wayland Historical Society, Incorporated

1956

THE WAYLAND FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

The small sign in front of the Wayland Library tells all who stop to read it that this is the "First Free Public Library in Massachusetts. Founded in 1848."

Actually the library movement began here April 6, 1796 when the Reverend Josiah Bridge, pastor of the First Church in Wayland (which was then East Sudbury), organized the "East Sudbury Social Library." The original thirty-two members paid a membership fee of four dollars and a yearly assessment of twenty-five cents for the purchase of books. The first purchase was thirty-six volumes, but by 1832 the collection had grown to 227 volumes and was kept in the private homes of its successive librarians who were paid two dollars yearly for services. Its book of records and 82 of the volumes were transferred to the Wayland Public Library when it was founded.[1]

In 1815 the Reverend John Burt Wight, of the First Parish, collected moral and religious books which were kept at the Church and were for the free use of the townspeople. This was known as the "East Sudbury Charitable Library." It increased by donations and purchases from contributions to about 300 volumes, and 71 of the books were later transferred to the Wayland Public Library.[2]

The Common School Libraries were begun in 1845 when the town ordered the purchase of about sixty volumes to be kept in each of the six district schools for use of the students and others. The six collections were exchanged annually among the schools and thus were widely read.[3] After the town library was established the school libraries were moved there by vote of the Town Meeting in 1851.[4]

The start of the Wayland Free Public Library came about on Commencement Day at Brown University in 1847. The college president, the Reverend Francis Wayland, expressed to his good friend Judge Edward Mellen from Wayland, whom he often visited here, a wish to help establish a library in that town. The Reverend Wayland offered to give $500, provided the citizens of Wayland would raise an equal amount. The proposal was submitted at a Town Meeting held January 17, 1848 and an agent, Mr. James Sumner Draper, was appointed to canvass the town for subscriptions. Two hundred and

eight persons subscribed the amount of $553.90,[5] and at Town Meeting on March 6, 1848 articles "to hear any proposition respecting a library"--"to see if the Town will accept money" for a library were favorably acted upon and the town then held $1000 for a "Free Public Library."[6]

Judge Mellen had expressed doubt about the right of a town to tax inhabitants for a public library. The Reverend John Burt Wight, who was at that time a state Representative, started action in the Legislature which resulted in the passing of the "Library Act" in May 1851 which made it legal for tax money of any city or town in the Commonwealth to "establish and maintain libraries for the use of the inhabitants thereof."[7]

Old records[8] say that shortly "a Library room was completed but was unsuitable and was not accepted;" so a committee was appointed to "prepare a room in a proper and convenient place."[9] In June 1850 a room was ready for use in the Town House (now Collins Market) and a librarian chosen at a yearly salary of one hundred dollars to be paid by the town. The first books were given out on August 7, 1850 on a Saturday afternoon, probably, as the library was open only on Saturday afternoons and evenings. A regulation of the times stipulated that any resident of the town, over the age of fourteen, might take out one book at a time, but no family might have more than three at one time.[10]

A "Library Celebration" took place on August 26, 1851, expenses being paid by the town. The Reverend Francis Wayland was, of course, the guest of honor. "A most interesting occasion it was from several reasons. First, from the cause that originates it. This cause was most justly stated in the following words, by Dr. Wayland to Judge Mellen, the president of the day, while witnessing the people old and young, crowding the church in which the celebration was held, in every available place. 'This gives me a higher idea of New England character than any thing I have before witnessed. Your inhabitants have assembled without distinction of age or sex, to celebrate, with joyful festivities, not any great victory, not any great political event, <u>but the founding of a library</u>.'"[11] Judge Mellen gave an address of thanks to Dr. Wayland,

and in replying Dr. Wayland said, "Our fathers founded schools where we are taught to read; when we know how to read we want something to read--we want books."[12]

In 1874 a reading room was established in Cochituate,[13] books being supplied from the main Library for Cochituate readers. This reading room was maintained for many years in rented quarters in a business block on Main Street until very recently when it was moved to modern quarters in the new municipal building.

In 1878 a more generous Town Meeting allowed $462 for books and $150 for the librarian and an assistant. There was also an appropriation of $5.44 for a library clock.[14] About that time many "works of art" were presented; these included the oil portrait of the Reverend John Burt Wight which now hangs over the fireplace on the right as one enters the reading room, and a picture of Francis Wayland which hangs to the left of the clock as one stands at the desk and looks up. Also presented were a number of India ink portraits, some of which still hang in the Library. Many Wayland residents gave books to the Library. One of the most prolific writers of her day, Mrs. Lydia Maria Child, whose home still stands on Old Sudbury Road, presented a copy of one of her books (Progress of Religious Ideas, 3 vols.) in 1855; after her death in 1880 her estate gave thirty-two more,[15] so the Wayland Library has a valuable set of her works and a fine collection of her letters.

The Library has been benefitted greatly by several trust funds established by persons interested in its growth. Among them are James Sumner Draper, Ella E. Draper, Sarah Webster Heard, Lydia Maria Child, Grace Campbell Draper, Cynthia G. Roby, Harriet Coburn Damon, Ada H. Wellington, Jonathan M. Parmenter, Isaac C. Damon, and Francis Shaw. Some of these trust funds were established for books, some for maintenance, and one was for "books other than Novels."[16]

In 1879 the Library was moved at a cost of $20 to "new, commodious and pleasant apartments" in the new Town Hall (the present one).[17] In 1896 Mr. Warren Gould Roby, prominent Wayland citizen, whose portrait hangs in the reading room opposite the Reverend Wight's, gave the town $10,000 [and land on which] to build a library

building.[18] The architect was Mr. Samuel Mead of Weston of the firm of Cabot, Everett & Mead.[19] The result of that generous gift was our present fine building which was dedicated in 1900.[20] The Shaw Room in the basement of the library is available for group meetings and was established in memory of Mr. Francis Shaw who contributed much to the library during its formative period.

Mr. Henry Wight served as librarian during the first fifteen years, and was succeeded in 1865 by Mr. James Sumner Draper, who held the position for twenty years. Mrs. John Heard took over from him in 1885[21] and served until 1901 when Mrs. Mabel T. S. Small carried on in the new building until 1903.[22] Miss Margaret Wheeler gave continuous service for thirty-nine years from January 1, 1903 until her death on December 31, 1941.[23] This is an extraordinary record of devotion to service from its citizens to the Town of Wayland--five librarians in 92 years!

In July 1944 the Friends of the Wayland Library were organized with the purpose of furthering interest in and use of the Library.[24]

Wayland citizens have reason to be proud of their Library and the long history behind it. There are many comments on its attractive appearance and friendly atmosphere; the annual circulation has grown to about 38,000.[25] It houses a collection of over 30,000 volumes, particularly rich in local history and the fine arts. Quoting again from Dr. Wayland's letter to Judge Mellen, anticipating the beginning of the first library in this state, "How noble beyond expression the prospect which it opens"... this effort "is by no means little if by example it should be permitted to spread and cover the soil of New England, so that every man amongst us should have an abundant supply of intellectual food. Who can estimate its results upon our country. If every man who goes out from New England bears with him these ideas and considers the means of intellectual culture a necessary of life, what may we not expect from such a spirit... What is to become of this country no one can foretell but let us labor with our whole strength, as God shall give us opportunity, to lay the foundation of its moral and intellectual character so broadly and so firmly that no contingency within the range

of human prescience can render it other than an intelligent and virtuous people. This granted we may leave the results to Providence."[26] Even before Dr. Wayland's inspiring letter the founders of that first "Social Library" expressed the conviction that much of our "happiness depends on the General diffusion of useful Knowledge by the free use of well chosen books."[27]

Footnotes

1. Proceedings at Dedication of Town Hall, Dec. 24, 1878--prepared and published by authority of the Town, . East Sudbury Social Library, p. 76.
2. Ibid.
3. Ibid.
4. Ibid., p. 77.
5. List of Subscribers and their subscriptions on file in Library.
6. Heard, Jared M., Origin of the Free Public Library System of Massachusetts, Clinton, Mass., 1860, p. 8.
7. Ibid., p. 7.
8. Wayland Free Public Library Records for 1850, on file.
9. Heard, Jared M., Origin of the Free Public Library System of Massachusetts, Clinton, Mass., 1860, p. 7.
10. Ibid.
11. Ibid., p. 14.
12. Ibid., p. 15.
13. Annual Report of Library Commission 1874-1875, p.
14. Wayland Town Report 1878-1879, p. 60.
15. Accession book kept by J. S. Draper, on file, p.
16. Original record on file (in tin box).
17. Wayland Town Report 1879-1880, p.
18. Library Records 1896.
19. Wayland Town Report 1900-1901, p.
20. Ibid., p.
21. Library Records 1885.
22. Wayland Town Report 1902, p.
23. Wayland Town Report 1941, p.
24. Official Reports of the Town of Wayland for Its One Hundred and Sixty-Sixth Municipal Year for the Year Ending December 31, 1945, p. 193.

25. Ibid., for the Year Ending December 31, 1954, p. 169.

26. Framed Copy of Letter on file.

27. East Sudbury Social Library Records, 1796.

Library
Wayland History -
Library

Student Paper

THE WAYLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
Mr. Mack

WAYLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

~~No. 15~~

Janine McCauley
Core Survey
October 28,1974

original in cage.
5-78

Library

"East Sudbury Social Library". It was started on April 6, 1796 by the reverand Josiah Bridge,the pastor of the First Church in Wayland(which was then East Sudbury). The library consisted of thirty two members who paid a membership fee of [illegible] and a yearly assessment of twenty-five cents for the purchase of books. The books were kept in the homes of the successive librarians who were paid two dollars a year for their services.

Another library, the "East Sudbury Charitable Library" was formed in 1815 by the Reverand John Burt Wight of the First Parish Church. This was a collection of moral and religious books for the free use of the townspeople. These books, were first kept at the Reverand Wights residence, and later, at the Unitarian church. Seventy-one of the three hundred bookswere later transferred to the public library.

In 1845 the town provided six librarys, consisting of sixty volumes each, for the six school districts. These librarys were exchanged annually among the schools and thus widely read. At the town meeting of May 26,1851 it was voted the school librarys be combined with the newer public library.

In 1847, the Reverand Francis Wayland, the president of Brown University for whom the town was later named, expressed his desire to his good friend Judge Mellen of Wayland, to donate five-hundred dollars to the town. Judge Mellen suggested he donate it towards a library and at the town meeting of March 1848, the Judge stated that a "freind of Wayland" offered to give the town five-hundred dollars provided the town raise an equal sum. The town voted to accept the money and an agent was appointed to canvas the

tow[illegible]ors. The s[illegible]ive-hundred fiftythree dollars and ninty cents was collected and at the town meeting of May 1848,the town discussed finding a room or building to house the library.

[illegible], due to [illegible]d doubts about the right of a town to buy it's [illegible]ights for a library, So, the Rever-[illegible] Dr. [illegible] was at the time a state representative in the General Court, started action which later resulted in the passing of the library act in May 1851. This made it possible for any city or town in the Commonwealth to tax the people for public librarys.

A building was constructed for the library by Mr. Luther Gleason but according to old records it was unsuitable and was not accepted. So, a room for the library was prepared on the front lower floor of the Town Hall (also known as the Town House, and now,Collin's Market). The Town Hall was constructed on the site of the Old Meeting House, by Mr. James Draper,at a cost of one-thousand seven-hundred dollars. The library opened there August7, 1850 and was kept [illegible]re until the opening of the New Town Hall in December 1870. The plan for the New Town Hall was made by George F. Fuller of Boston and William R. Stinson was the contractor. The building cost nine-thousand seven-hundred dollars. It was started in May, completed October 20, and dedicated December 18, 1878.

In 1880 Mr. Warren Gould Roby, a prominent citizen of Maylend, gave the town ten-thousand dollars and the land on which to build the present library building. This building was opened in 1900.

In 1874 a reading room in Cochituate was established in a rented room on Main Street and was later moved [illegible] the [illegible]

FIRST CHURCH IN WAYLAND
(ALSO CALLED FIRST PARISH CHURCH AND NO , UNITARIAN)

OLD TOWN HALL

NEW TOWN HALL

JOSIAH BRIDGE

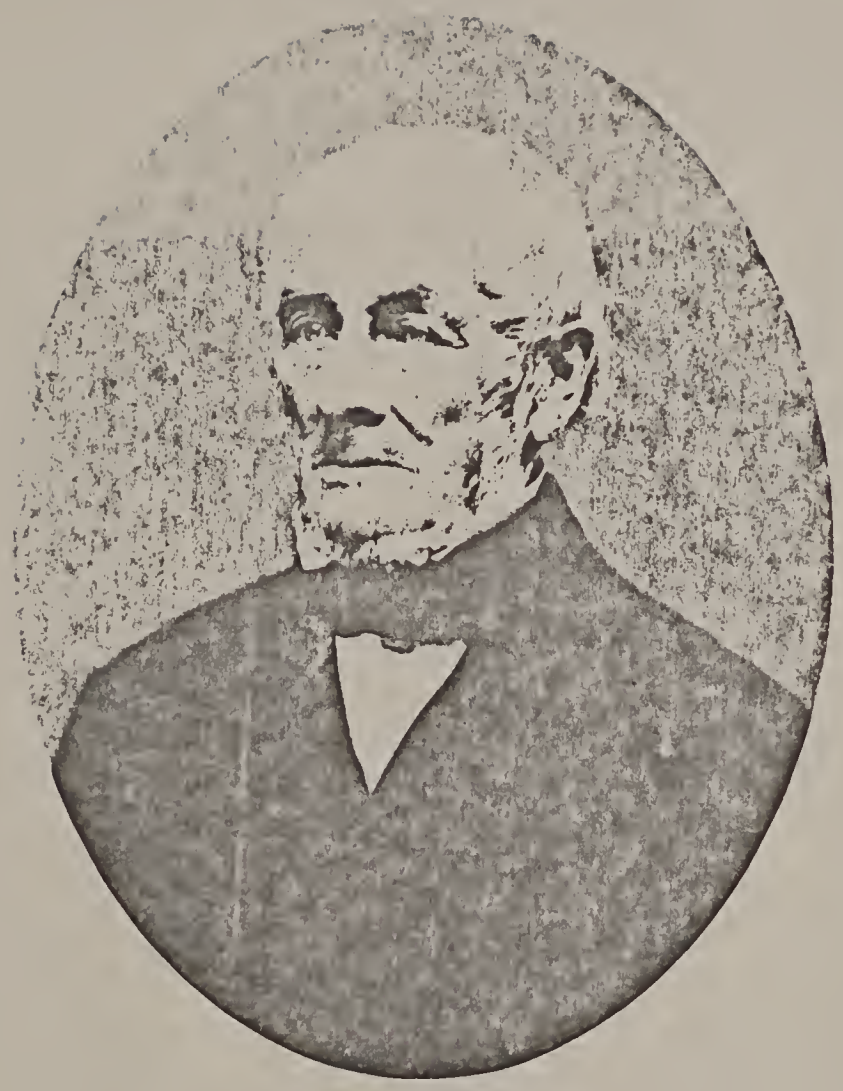
[illegible] was the Pastor of the First Ch-
[illegible] then East Sudbury). He was born
in Lexington Massachusetts in 1739. He was a graduate of
Harvard College in 1758. He was ordained November 4, 1761.
He died on June 19, 1801 at the age of sixty-two. Reverand
Bridge founded the first library in Wayland when he organiz-
ed the "East Sudbury Social Library" on April 6, 1796.

L. MARIA CHILD.
At the age of 63

LYDIA MARIE CHILD

Lydia Marie Child was born in Medford Massachusetts February 11 1802 as Lydia Marie Francis. Her education consisted of public school and one year of private seminary. In 1828 she married David Lee Child. In 1831 and 1832 she became interested in the subject of slavery and became an advocate of freedom for Blacks.She also took an interest in Prison Reform, Peace , The Welfare of the Indian,and the Woman Question including suffrage. In 1852 she moved to

Wayland to care for her aged father. She died on October 20, 1880at age 78, leaving in her will a sum for the town library. Her estate also gave many of her works and a great collection of her letters.



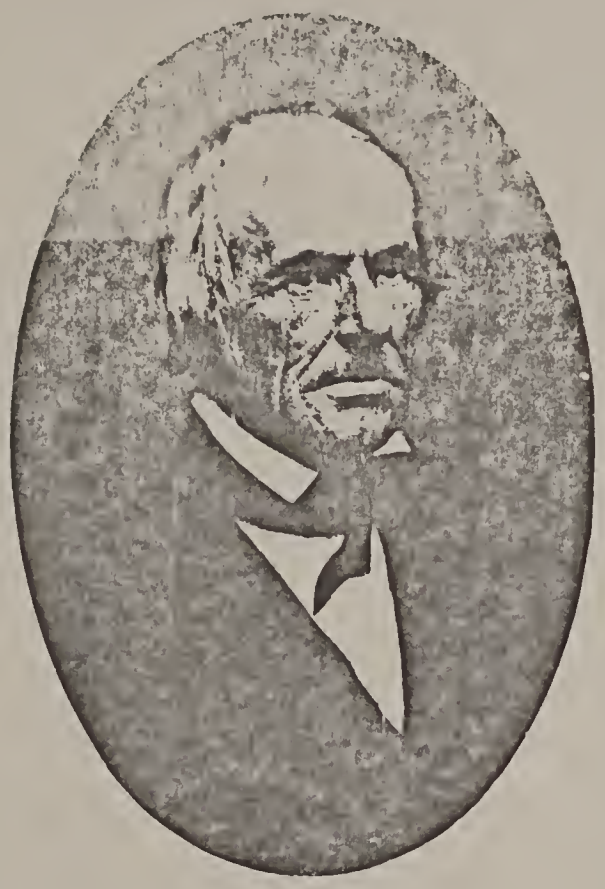
JAMES DRAPER.

At the age of 80

JAMES DRAPER

James Draper was Deacon of the First Church in Wayland for forty-three years. He was born in Dedham Massachusetts May twenty-eighth 1787 and he married Elizabeth Sumner January fourteenth 1809. He purchased many old estates in order to demolish old buildings and erect new ones or remodel and renovate others.He did this thirteen different times during his lifetime, one of which was when he purchased the land

on which the old meeting house stood. On that land, in about 1840, he erected theTown Hall which also consisted of a schoolroom and the library. In 1863 Mr. Draper gave five hundred dollars to the town for a permanent library fund. Mr. Draper died December fifth 1870.



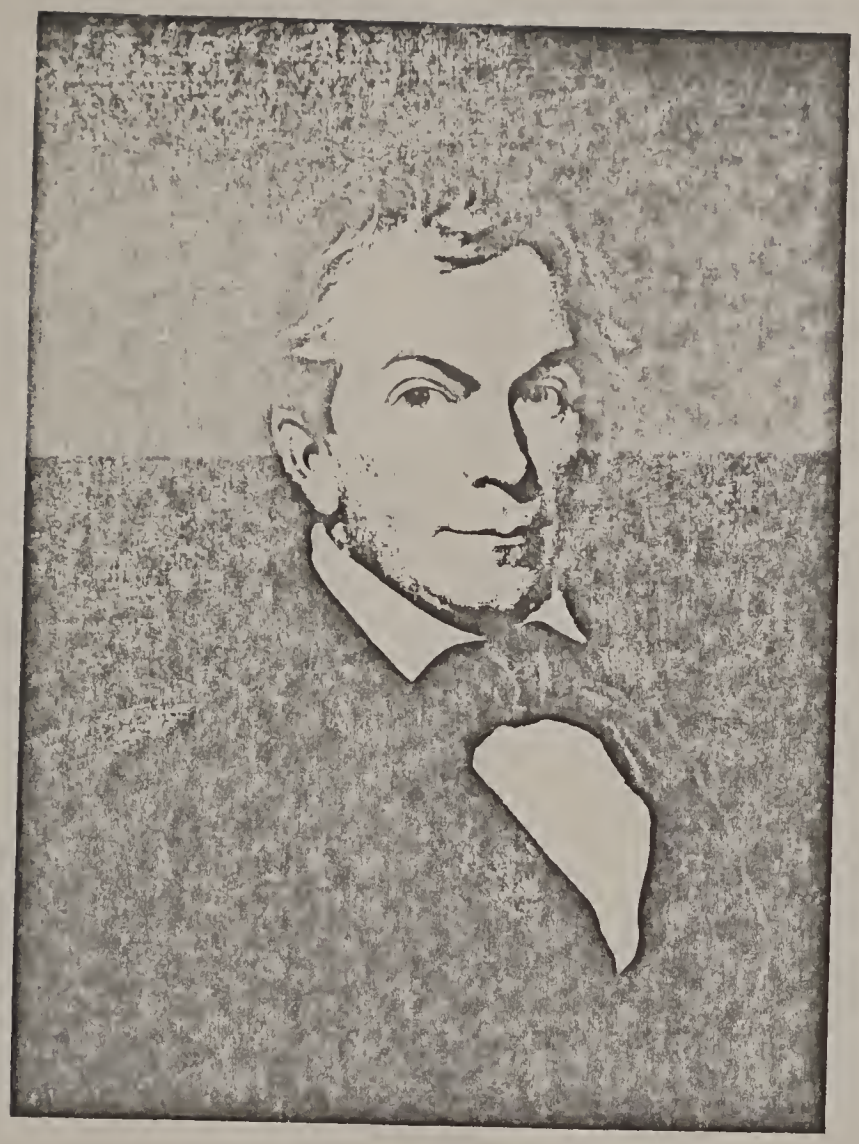
REV. JOHN B. WIGHT.

At the age of 60

JOHN BURT WIGHT

ReverandJohn Burt Wight was born at Bristol Rhode Island May seventh 1790. His preparation for college was completed at age twelve and he entered Brown University at age fourteen. He graduated at the head of his class in 1808. In 1816 he recieved the degree of A, M. from Harvard University. On January first 1818 he married Sarah Grout. He was ordained as a minister of the Church of East Sudbury January twenty-fifth 1815 and preached there fifteen years. It was there he collected a group of moral and religious

books for the free use of the townspeople,known as the East Sudbury Charitable Library. The books were first kept at his house and later at the Unitarian church.Then, seventy-one of the three-hundred books were later transferred to the Wayland Public Library. During the formation of the library the question arose as to wether the town had the right to tax the people for a public library. So, the Reverand Wight, who was then a State Representative,started action in the legislature which later resulted in thepassing of the"Library Act" in May 1851 which made it legal for the tax money of any city or town in the Commonwealth to " Establish and maintain librarys for the use of the inhabitants thereof". Reverand Wight died December 20, 1883.



EDWARD MELLEN.

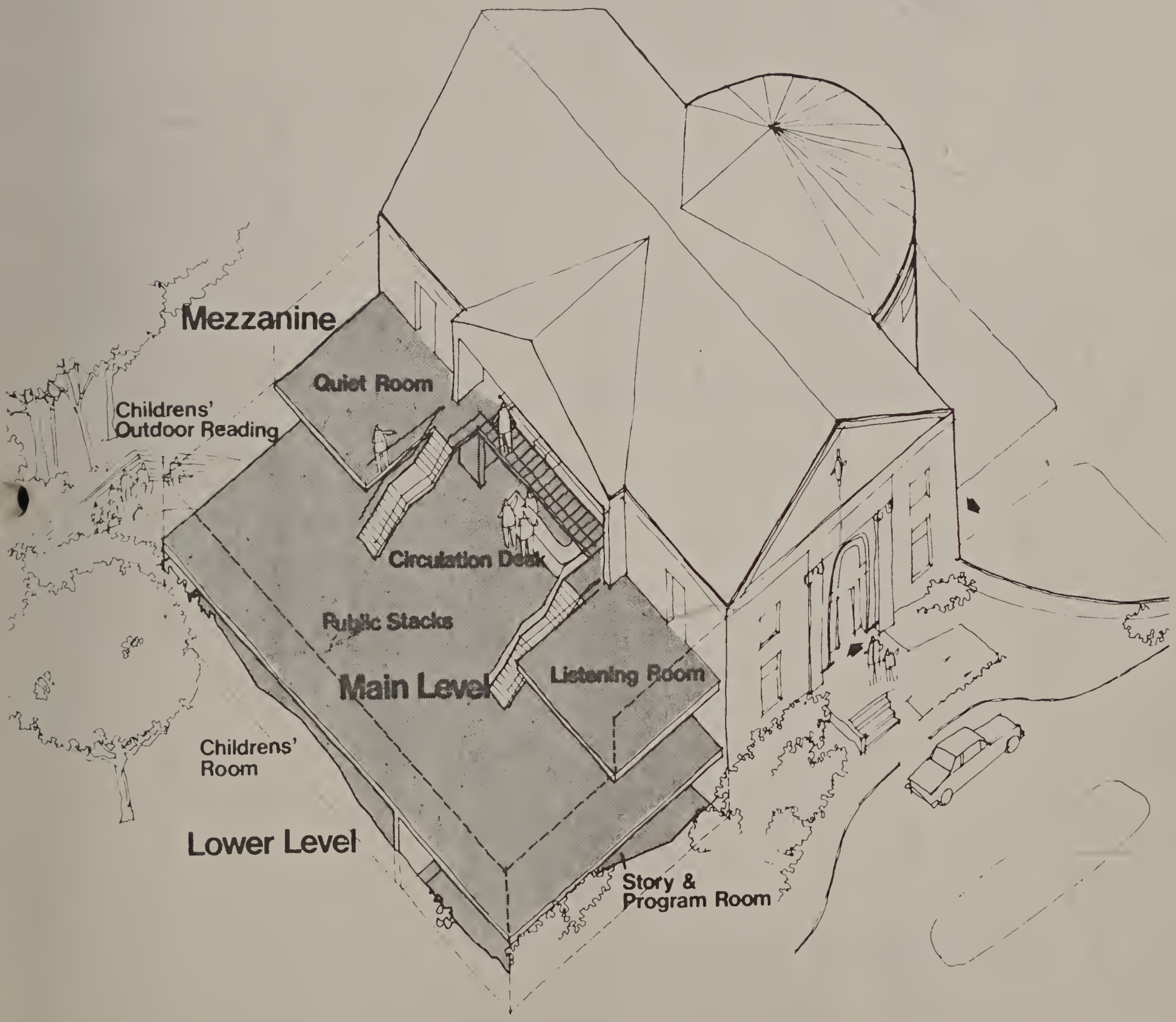
At the age of 42

EDWARD MELLEN Esq.

Edward Mellen was born in westborough on September 26, 1802. He graduated from Brown University in 1823, and went to Wayland November 30, 1830 where he died May 31, 1875. He was well known in the legal profession and in 1847 he was made Justice of Court of Common pleas and in 1855, he became the Chief Justice of the same Court. In 1854 he recieved the degree of L.L.D. from Brown University. When Mellen's freind, Rev. Wayland expressed his desire to give the town five-hundred dollars, it was Mellen who suggested he give it towards a public library. Mellen also served on many

library committees and he also helped to choose some of the books for the library.

WAYLAND FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY
PROPOSED ADDITION



WAYLAND LIBRARY BUILDING PLANNING COMMITTEE
REPORT TO THE TOWN

October 1974

Board of Trustees,
Wayland Public Library

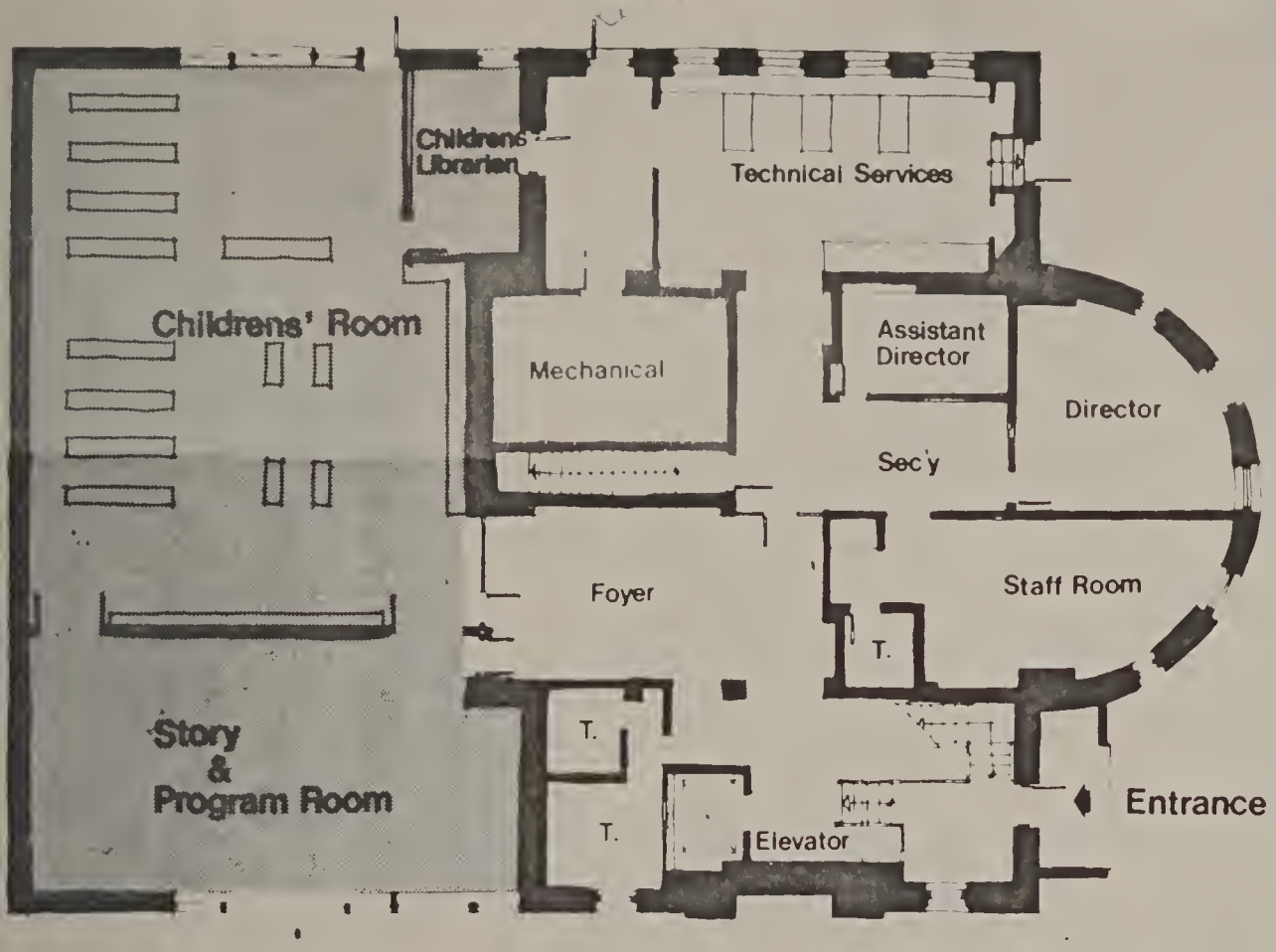
Leonard P. Entin, *Chairman*
Macon H. Cummings
Edwin R. Nelson
Doris M. Philbrook
Elizabeth C. Sweitzer

Wayland Library Building
Planning Committee

David J. Rowan, *Chairman*
Shirley M. Barnes
Leonard P. Entin
William B. Gagnebin
Marcia Lowell
William L. Maini
Erwin N. Ziner

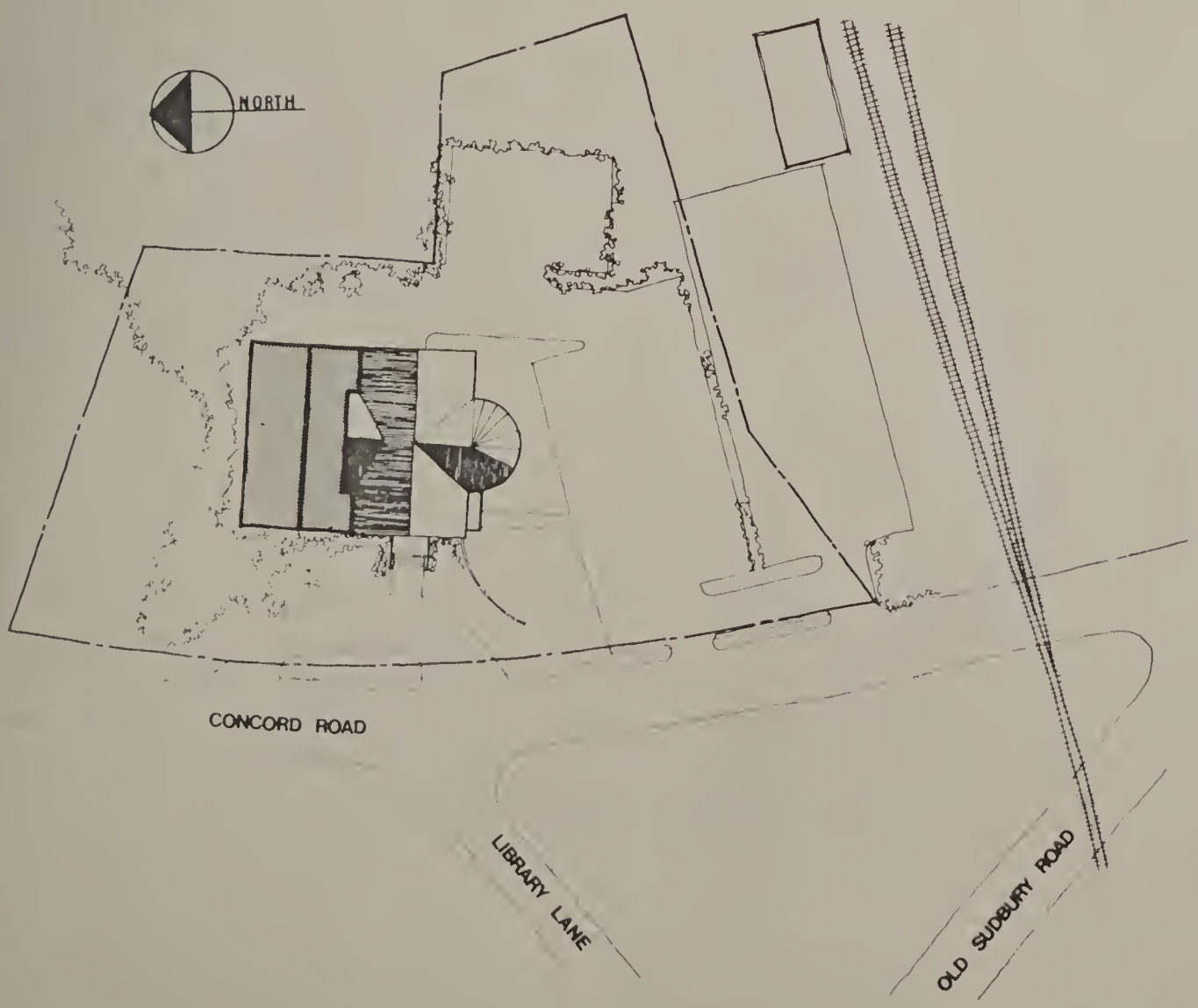
WAYLAND FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY
5 Concord Road
Wayland, Mass. 01778

BULK RATE
U.S. Postage
PAID
WAYLAND, MASS.
PERMIT # 16



LOWER LEVEL

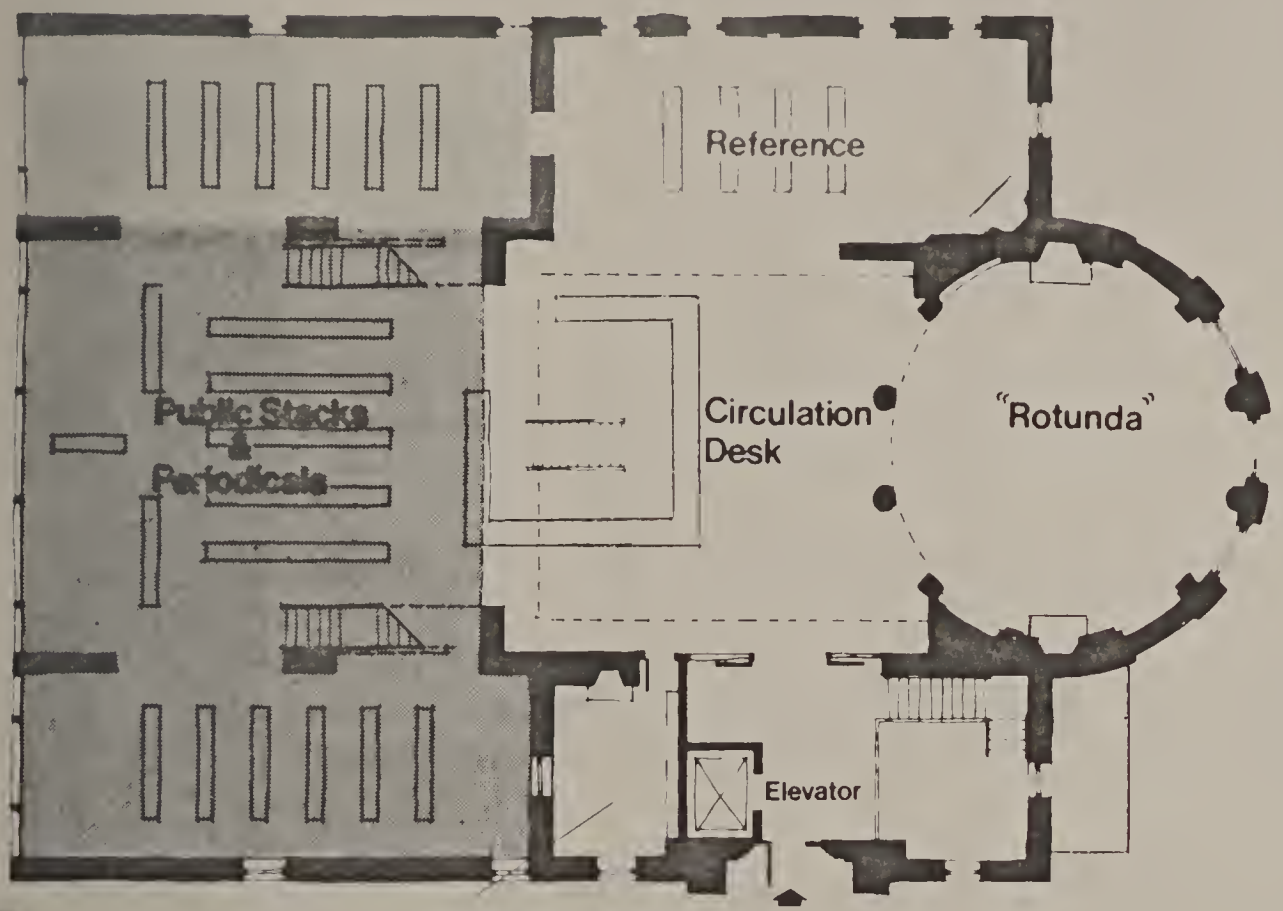
The existing portion of the lower level is remodeled for **administration and technical services. The new portion is devoted entirely to the Children's Department.**



SITE PLAN

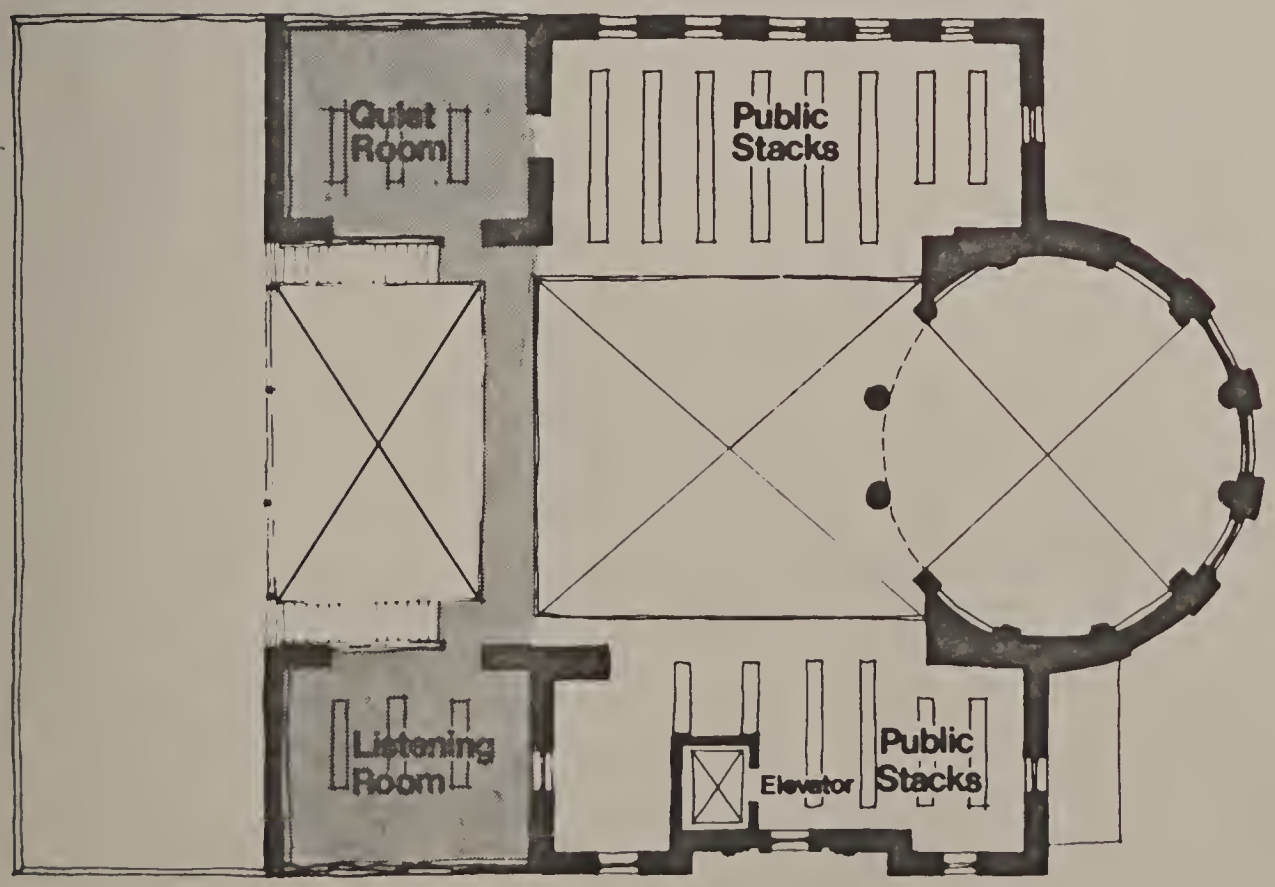
The proposed addition extends to the North and makes optimum use of the available land. Provision is made for convenient dropoff at the front entrance.

In the plans below, the shaded areas represent the proposed addition.



MAIN LEVEL

The present main level is extended to provide more stack and reading space. A central circulation desk serves the entire floor.



MEZZANINE

The mezzanines are extended into the new space to provide quiet study and listening areas.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Town expand the Main Library by the addition of a two-level section contiguous to the north side of the building. Total project cost is estimated at $550,000 assuming start of construction in the Spring of 1975. Each level will contain approximately 3,000 square feet. The main program features are:

- The Main Library is expanded to a total area of 12,800 square feet from the present 6,800 square feet. Book capacity increases to 71,000 from 45,000. Seating capacity increases to 85 from 45.

- The present first level expands out to a large continuous area with central control desk. It contains expanded stacks, reference and reading areas. The present circulation office converts to a special collections room.

- The new lower level is devoted to children's functions including stacks, reading area, play and story areas.

- The present lower level is modified to receive all of the Library's non-public functions including administrative offices, technical processing, storage, staff room and mechanical functions.

- Mezzanines are extended into the new space and contain open stacks, quiet study and listening areas.

- An elevator, as required by law, provides access for the handicapped to all levels.

- The existing building is remodeled and refurbished only as required. The entire structure, new and old, is fully air conditioned.

- The parking lot layout is modified to increase capacity.

COST ESTIMATE

Construction		
a. New Construction (1974 base)		$283,000
b. Remodeling		90,000
c. Cost Escalation Estimate		37,300
Furnishings and Equipment		50,000
Professional Fees		44,400
Contingency		34,800
Miscellaneous Expenses		10,500
	Total	$550,000

In comparison to most neighboring towns of generally similar character, Wayland's intensity of library usage, as measured by circulation per capita, is high. At the same time, Wayland's physical facilities, as measured by total area and volumes per square foot, are less satisfactory. Table II below summarizes data for a number of towns and highlights Wayland's relative position.

TABLE II. COMPARATIVE STATISTICS

	Population	Annual Circulation	Annual Circulation per Capita	Volumes	Total Area Sq.Ft.	Volumes per Sq.Ft.
Acton	14,770	164,218	11.1	35,600	10,000	3.6
Bedford	13,513	110,740	8.2	62,882	15,000	4.2
Lincoln	5,002	82,562	16.5	40,444	11,500	3.5
Sudbury	13,506	133,000	9.8	25,000	12,000	2.1
Wayland	13,209	177,323	13.4	48,000 *	7,900 **	6.1
Weston	10,870	187,140	17.2	45,000	7,000	6.4
Westwood	12,750	160,581	12.6	61,204	20,000	3.1

*includes 3,000 volumes at Cochituate Branch
**includes 1,100 square feet at Cochituate Branch

Over the years, the demand for Library services in Wayland has expanded at a much greater rate than the population, as evidenced by gains in per-capita and total circulation. In addition to directly measurable factors like circulation, however, there has been continuous upgrading and expansion of other traditional library services which do not appear on charts but which are essential library functions. These services include the highly popular children's story hours, the continually improving reference collection and service, art and craft exhibits and demonstrations, cultural programs in the Rotunda, film series, book discussion groups, the painting and sculpture loan program, visits to the elderly, and other programs.

During the feasibility study program, the LBPC and Library Board of Trustees have met with the School Committee and other Town committees and boards to assess needs, prevent duplication of facilities and evaluate any alternative possibilities for solution of the Library problem. It is our conclusion that the Town's needs are best served by the construction at this time of an addition to the Main Library. A prime objective of the expansion program should be to provide the new space needed for current and future library services while preserving the beauty, dignity and character of the existing historic structure.

TABLE I. LIBRARY STATISTICS

	1964	1973
Population - Total	12,091	13,209
Population - Less Junior & Sr. High	10,520	11,292
Volumes	34,432	48,000
Circulation - Total	101,691	177,323
Circulation per Capita	8.4	13.4
Circulation Turnover (Circ./Volumes)	2.95	3.70
Registered Borrowers	6,411	7,607

Figure 1 below presents historical and projected trends in library usage. From 1954 to 1973, there has been a steady climb in per-capita and total circulation even in the face of a recent slowdown in the population growth rate. The current crowding problem can be expected to steadily increase in severity unless provisions for expansion are made now.

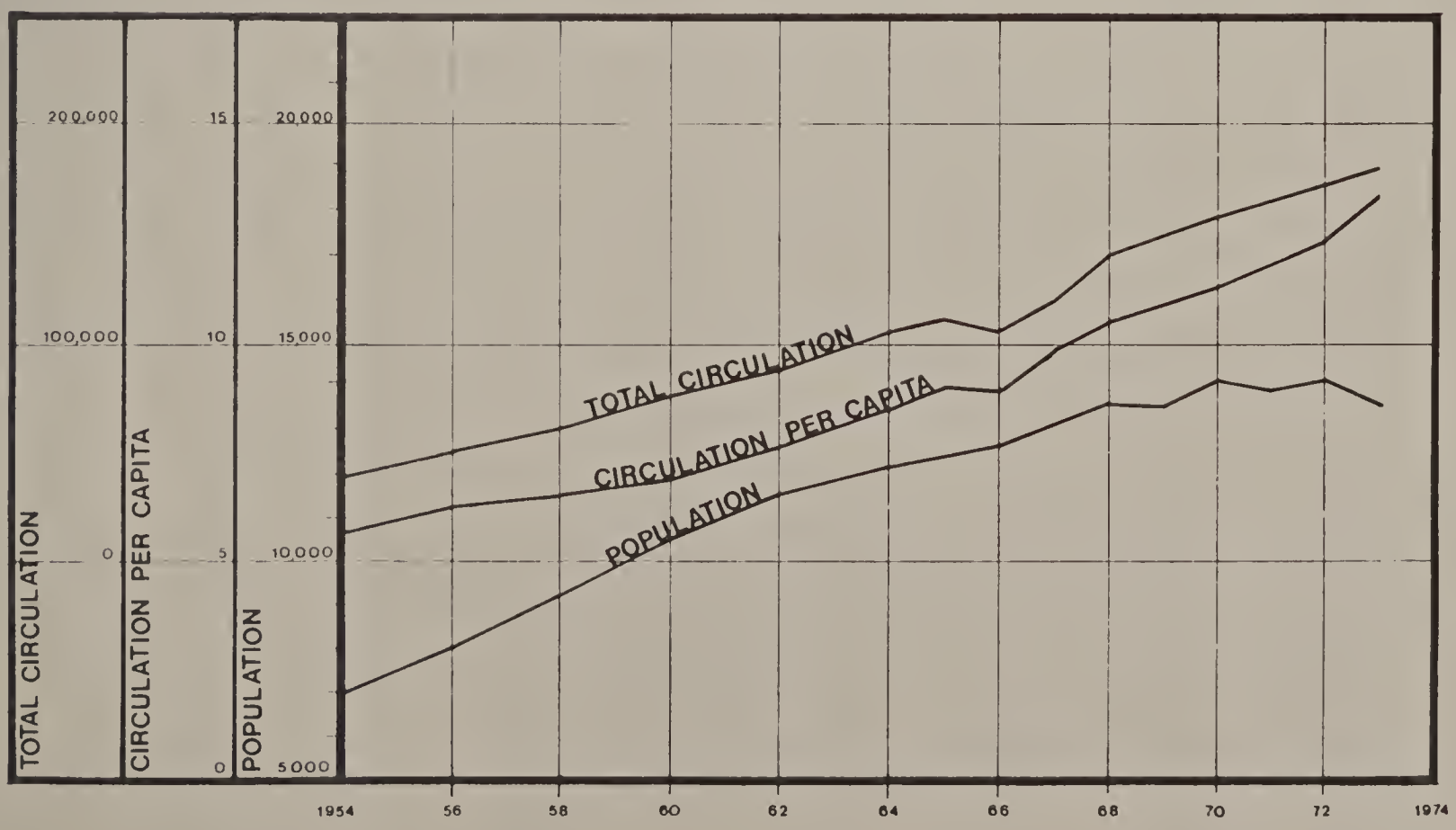


Fig. 1 USAGE PROJECTIONS

INTRODUCTION

The Wayland Library Building Planning Committee (LBPC) was established at the March 1973 Town Meeting to study the feasibility of adding to the Main Library building to meet the expanding library needs of the Town. This report presents the Committee's conclusions and recommendations for action by the Town.

THE NEED

The present Main Library structure was built in 1899, remodeled in 1966, and has served the Town well for seventy-five years. The Cochituate branch moved into its present quarters in 1953 and was expanded in 1970. The Main Library is now too small for current and future needs. Moreover, it requires continuous refurbishing to maintain it in satisfactory physical condition. The principal current deficiences are:

- Inadequate stack space for books and materials.
- Inadequate seating space for reference and general reading.
- Inadequate program space for children's story hour and films.
- Inadequate space for staff functions and technical processing.
- No areas for quiet study or music listening.
- No climate control, resulting in much summertime discomfort and potential deterioration of library materials.

These problems have become progressively more serious as the building ages and the rate of library use increases. The Town Library serves the recreational, educational, cultural and information needs of the entire population, and is a heavily used resource in Wayland. The statistics of Table I show the intensity of use and the sharp increase in that use over the last ten years. About 57 percent of the population hold library cards -- a very high fraction. The 1973 circulation of 13.4 per capita means that, on the average, each resident of Wayland takes out of the library more than one book per month. In addition, the entire book collection is, on the average, circulated almost four times per year.

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November, 1847
March 1848
April 1848
May 1848
January 1, 1849
January 8, 1849
April 2, 1849
November 12, 1849
January 1, 1850
March 4, 1850
April 1, 1850
May 27, 1850
August 19, 1850
March 3, 1851
April 7, 1851
May 26, 1851
November 10, 1851
April 3, 1852
April 4, 1853

Wayland - History Library

THE FIRST

in 1901, when the present building was opened to the public. Funds were secured from the County Commissioners through a tax levy.

Free public library was the Juvenile Library of Dublin, N.H., established in 1822.

Free public library (town supported) maintained by a public tax and controlled and managed by vote of the town was established in Peterborough, N.H., April 9, 1833.

Library was established in Charleston, S.C., in 1698 through the efforts of Thomas Bray (later representative in Maryland of the Bishop of London), who in 1696 forwarded religious books to the clergy. In 1700, Charleston passed an act "for securing the Provincial Library of Charlestown, by which commissioners and trustees were appointed for its preservation." *(Edward McCrady—History of South Carolina Under the Proprietary Government, 1670-1719)*

Library building used exclusively as a library was a frame house erected by James Logan on the west side of Sixth Street, between Chestnut and Walnut streets, Philadelphia, Pa., in 1725. It was available to the public for reading purposes by written permission from James Logan. On March 8, 1745, he turned over this property and 2,000 books to the city, but the library did not start to function as a public library until November 8, 1760. Upon the death in 1776 of his son, William Logan, who was the first librarian, the library was closed for several years. On March 31, 1792, the Loganian Library was incorporated with the Library Company of Philadelphia. *(Austin Kayingham Gray—First American Library)*

Library building (university) was the library of the University of South Carolina, Columbia, S.C., completed May 6, 1840. The first librarian of the university was Elisha Hammond, who began to serve in 1805. The first librarian in the separate building was Dr. Thomas Park.

Library for seamen was inaugurated March 1829 by the American Seamen's Friend Society of New York City, which supplied traveling libraries to ships soon after its organization May 5, 1828, when Smith Thomson was elected president. Loan libraries were placed on board American ships, Coast Guard, and naval vessels, and in life-saving stations.

Library newspaper room was the [Michael Hodge] Simpson Annex of the Newburyport Public Library, Newburyport, Mass., dedicated April 28, 1882. On March 26, 1870, William

THE FIRST

Cleaves Todd offered the library $300 annually for the purchase of newspapers and magazines, and supplemented the grant until it amounted to $400. He established a $10,000 fund for the same purpose, increasing it on April 12, 1900, to $15,000.

Library of Congress was established by act of April 24, 1800 (2 Stat.L.56), which appropriated $5,000 "for the purchase of such books as may be necessary for the use of Congress at the said city of Washington and for fitting up a suitable apartment for containing them and for placing them therein." The first library catalog, dated April 1802, listed 964 volumes and 9 maps.

Library of Congress catalog. *See* Library catalog: Catalog of the Library of Congress

Library of Congress librarian. *See* Librarian: Librarian of Congress

Mechanics' library was opened in New York City in 1820 by the General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen of the City of New York and was known as the "Apprentice's Library." The name was changed in 1898 to the "Free Library of the General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen." The Free Quakers in 1820 opened an apprentices' library at Carpenters Hall, Philadelphia, Pa., holding the first public meeting and adopting a constitution on February 28, 1820. The library was opened June 3, 1820, at 100 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia. Horace Binney was the first president and Daniel B. Smith, the secretary. *(One Hundred and Forty-fifth Annual Report—General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen of the City of New York;* also *Watson's Annals of Philadelphia)*

Mercantile library was the Mercantile Library Association of the City of New York, organized at 49 Fulton Street, New York City, November 9, 1820, with 150 sponsors in attendance. The constitution was adopted November 27, 1820. The library was founded to assist clerks and others engaged in mercantile business to enjoy the use of reading facilities. It opened February 12, 1821. Its present building is located at 17 East 47th Street, New York City. The first president was Lucius Bull, who served from November 27, 1820, to December 17, 1823. *(Mercantile Library Association of the City of New York—First Annual Report. November 6, 1821)*

Youth's library was established in January 1803 in Salisbury, Conn., through the generosity of Caleb Bingham of Boston, a native of Salisbury. He donated 150 volumes, the nucleus of the Bingham Library for Youth.

1853.

John Wight's circular, promoting public libraries

Sir,

The importance of the subject will, I trust, be a sufficient apology for soliciting your attention to the following communication.

In the session of the Legislature of 1851, a law, which I had the honor of introducing and advocating, was passed to be enacted, with great approbation and almost entire unanimity, authorizing the cities and towns of this Commonwealth, within certain moderate limits of expenditure, to establish and maintain Public Libraries. The design of the measure was not merely to prevent the necessity of special legislation in particular instances, but also and chiefly to suggest, recommend, and facilitate the formation of a good, permanent, increasing Library in every city and town of the Commonwealth, for the use and benefit of all its inhabitants.

In several instances, such libraries have been recently formed, or are now in a state of formation, We have one in Wayland, containing already more than eighteen hundred volumes of valuable books, which has been in operation for more than two years, and is highly appreciated and much frequented by the people. It was founded in consequence of the liberal offer to the town of five hundred dollars by President Wayland, of Brown University, in Rhode Island, on condition that five hundred dollars more should be raised by the inhabitants for that purpose. Another has been lately established under favorable auspices, at Concord; a valuable social library of fifteen hundred volumes having been offered for that purpose by the intelligent and public-spirited proprietors, on condition that the town would raise annually, for its management and increase, the highest sum authorized by the law. Another has within a few months been organized and put into circulation in Southboro', at an expense of a thousand dollars, in consequence of five hundred dollars having been offered to the town by Hon. Francis B. Fay, a successful merchant of Boston, and a native of the town of which he has thus become a distinguished and permanent benefactor. Public libraries are also now forming, or about to be formed, in Boston, Worcester, New Bedford, Danvers, Northampton.

There can be no doubt, that, from the influence of example and emulation, and in the natural progress of a favorable public opinion, libraries of this kind will occasionally, and in more numerous instances, arise in other cities and towns. But having, from my humble efforts in relation to it, been led to think much on the subject, it has seemed to me its importance is so great, that some special exertions may well be made to promote and accelerate their universal dissemination, by bringing just views of the advantages which may be reasonably expected from them more distinctly and prominently before the minds of the whole people.

The object contemplated is a great extension, both of the sphere and the means of popular education. Suitable means of a good early education are provided by law for all the *children* of the people in the common schools, which lie at the foundation of the superior intelligence and information of the great mass of our citizens, and have been so much elevated in their character, and increased in their efficiency, by the attention and efforts of some of our wisest and ablest men. It is now proposed, in the efforts which are making to promote the establishment and maintenance of public libraries in all the cities and towns, that our citizens in every part of the Commonwealth should be induced, not by legal requirement, but in the exercise of their own intelligence and choice, to provide for themselves, and transmit to posterity, ample and increasing means of information, instruction, and improvement for the *whole people*, through all the subsequent and much more capable periods of life.

It is easy to see that a good public library in any city or town must necessarily be advantageous and beneficial to its inhabitants. A large collection of the best books on the sciences and arts, and in the various departments of literature, accessible to all, and continually augmented with new publications of utility and interest, — how much is it needed for the sufficient instruction and cultivation of many individuals and families in every community! How much useful information will it spread extensively abroad! How much will it enlarge the views, refine the tastes, improve the manners, and elevate the minds, of all who are capable of appreciating and using it! How much aid may be derived from the practical information it contains, in many agricultural, mechanical, and mercantile pursuits! How much must it contribute to raise the standard of morals, to improve the character of social intercourse, to increase the capability of deriving instruction and benefit from all other means of useful

knowledge and mental culture! What an advantage to the young to have within their reach copious sources of information on all subjects with which they should be well acquainted; and, while their minds and characters are in a state of formation, to have an opportunity of making themselves familiar with the mature thoughts, the noble sentiments, the beautiful imaginations, the high conceptions, the prudent counsels, the excellent examples, of many of the wisest and best and most gifted men and women of past ages and the present times! What a benefit to the mature, and what a boon to the aged, to have a suitable and interesting occupation for their leisure hours, in which they may not only pass them pleasantly, but also with a continual acquisition of useful and improving knowledge!

Let such a library be established and maintained in any city or town, and can it be doubted that in ten years, or even in five, the good effects of it would be very apparent? Would not the more enlightened and cultivated state of society which this would necessarily produce, contribute much to the development of genius and talent, to the production of wealth, to the diffusion of external advantages and embellishments, to the promotion of moral reforms, to the improvement of the schools, to the higher character and greater influence of the ministrations of religion? Would there not be more of the accommodations, comforts, and enjoyments of life; more intelligence and refinement of mind; more correct and higher habits of conduct; more of a truthful and fruitful piety; more of contentment, satisfaction, and happiness, in the advantages and blessings of this earthly existence, in every part of the community, than would be possible with a less general diffusion of knowledge, and a lower degree of mental cultivation? And if such good effects of a public library in any city or town could not fail to be very perceptible and considerable in ten, or even five years, how much must they be increased when one whole generation has grown up under its advantages, and how much greater in the generations and centuries to come!

Multiply this amount of material, intellectual, and moral benefits proportionately by the extent and population of the State. Let every city and town be provided with a good public library, for the use of all its inhabitants; let the million of our fellow-citizens be favored with these ample means of useful information and mental culture, and is it not apparent that the amount of the knowledge, the wealth, the improvement, and the happiness, resulting from their favorable influences, must be very great? — that the Commonwealth of ten years, of fifty years, of a hundred years hence, will, in consequence, be far superior to the Commonwealth of the present day, in all that relates to both the inferior and the higher purposes of life, — distinguished as it already is in these respects by the good effects of its present excellent and efficient means of the universal education of the people?

Now, if the advantages and benefits to be expected from public libraries are manifestly very great, the necessary expenses of establishing and maintaining them are as remarkably small. Should no donation or subscription be offered to aid in their formation, — which, judging from past experience, may, in many cases, be expected, and which, under the present law, may be perfectly secured and transmitted in its benefits to succeeding generations, — a sum raised *once*, equal to that raised *annually* for the support of schools, would be sufficient, even in the less populous towns, to found a library, very respectable and useful in its commencement. A sum raised annually for its management and increase, not exceeding the value of twenty-five cents multiplied by the number of ratable polls, — the limit prescribed by the law, — would be sufficient to make an addition to it every year of new and interesting books, which would ensure the continuance of its popularity and usefulness, and, in many years, render it copious and rich in every department of literature and science.

The practical difficulties which might in some instances occur would be incidental, and not essential; nor can it be doubted that there is wisdom and prudence and good feeling enough in all our towns to overcome them, in the accomplishment of an object so important.

Nor is the establishment of public libraries premature. The people are prepared for their introduction by the proprietary and common-school libraries which have preceded them, and by the increasing desire of information which is spreading through all classes; and will approve them, and provide for them, and welcome them everywhere, as soon as they shall be led to consider and understand their nature and importance. The universal establishment of such libraries in this Commonwealth — and may I not say in the New England States, in the United States, and throughout the

civilized world — is a question only of time; and this question of time is to us of the present day an important question. It will be a great advantage to any city or town to have a good public library in five years, or even within the lives of the next generation. But can any city or town afford to do without advantages so much conducive to the prosperity and improvement of its citizens, and which may be so easily and cheaply obtained, even for five years? Still more: can the young persons in any community intelligently assent to a delay in this matter, in consequence of which they must grow up, and live, and pass off the stage, without such an advantage, which might be easily procured for them in a short time, and in which many of their compeers in more favored towns will unquestionably participate? It will be a great honor and benefit to the good old Bay State, if public libraries should be established in all its cities and towns within the present half-century. But does she not, by her past and present measures for the education of all her citizens, deserve this honor and benefit at an earlier period? and shall she not receive it from sons who are so much indebted for their superior intelligence and great prosperity to the common schools, academies, colleges, and professional institutions, which she has provided for them? And what can be a more suitable tribute of honor and gratitude to the forefathers, or a better fulfilment of the responsibilities relating to the future, in this respect, than an imitation of their wise and provident example, in securing for the present generation, and transmitting to the generations which shall come after, an additional and excellent provision for the instruction and improvement of the whole people, through all the periods of life?

Excuse my addressing you at such length on a subject on which your own enlightened mind will suggest so many important and interesting considerations.

I do not think it can be necessary to ask you to do what you may consistently do, within the sphere of your action and influence, for the promotion of the accomplishment of the object in view. May it not be safely presumed, that a suitable consideration of the subject will produce spontaneously, in many intelligent, public-spirited persons, the determination and efforts in its behalf which its importance demands? What seems to be most necessary is, that the people generally, in every community, should have the advantages and benefits of a public library plainly and impressively brought before them by the friends of universal education, and that such arrangements should be made as will give them an opportunity of coming to a definite determination and efficient action respecting it. Cannot this be done? Shall it not be done? Will not many of our most intelligent, far-seeing, patriotic, philanthropic citizens, in every part of the Commonwealth, say it shall be done?

Yours respectfully,

JOHN B. WIGHT.

Wayland, Jan. 1, 1853.

For the purpose of a more convenient reference, a copy of the Public Library Law is subjoined.

"An Act to authorize Cities and Towns to establish and maintain Public Libraries.

"*Be it enacted, &c. as follows:* —

"Sect. 1. — Any city or town of this Commonwealth is hereby authorized to establish and maintain a public library within the same, with or without branches, for the use of the inhabitants thereof, and to provide suitable rooms therefor, under such regulations for the government of such library as may, from time to time, be prescribed by the city council of such city, or the inhabitants of such town.

"Sect. 2. — Any city or town may appropriate for the foundation and commencement of such library, as aforesaid, a sum not exceeding one dollar for each of its ratable polls, in the year next preceding that in which such appropriation shall be made; and may also appropriate annually, for the maintenance and increase of such library, a sum not exceeding twenty-five cents for each of its ratable polls, in the year next preceding that in which such appropriation shall be made.

"Sect. 3. — Any city or town may receive, in its corporate capacity, and hold and manage, any devise, bequest, or donation, for the establishment, increase, or maintenance of a public library within the same. [*Approved May* 24, 1851.]"

Chapter 305 *of General Laws, passed by the Legislature of Massachusetts during the Session of* 1851.

It is hoped that the great number of this Circular, 4000, distributed throughout the Commonwealth, and the public importance of the subject, will be a sufficient apology for omitting the prepayment of postage.

Wayland Public Library

Record of
town meetings
Re establishment
of Wayland Library

[illegible] subject [illegible] town [illegible]
Town Records with the following results

1847

Monday Nov 8 1847 Richard Heard Moderator
"At the suggestion of Edward Mellen Esq. a committee was chosen to confer with him on the subject of a room for a library, consisting of the following persons James L Draper, Hervey Reeves, Henry Loggee, Daniel M Thomas, William Heard 2nd and John H Sherman".

Warrant for Town Meeting called for "Monday the 6th day of March (1848) next at Twelve o'clock at noon" by Richard Heard, Jr. M Bent and William Baldwin Selectmen contains the following
"Art 11 To hear from any individual any communication proposition or statement respecting a Town Library and do or act in any way relative thereto, or to any subject connected therewith"
"Art 12 To see if the town will accept the sum of Five hundred dollars offered by a Friend of Wayland for the purpose of purchasing a Library for the use of the Town, together with a sum exceeding that above named raised by subscription for the same purpose and determine the mode of expending the whole amount or any part thereof."
"Art 13 To see if the town will provide a suitable room or building in which said Library may be kept or do or act in anyway relative thereto"
"Art 14 To choose all committees or agents necessary for a proper reception of the donations referred to in the 12th Article for the purchase of books for the preparation of a code of suitable regulations for the Library and for any other object connected therewith"

At Town Meeting held March 6, 1848 - Richard Heard Moderator the records read as follows
"Art 11 This article being under consideration Mr Mellen stated that "a Friend of Wayland" had offered to give the town the sum of Five hundred dollars for the purchase of a Library for the use of the town provided an equal sum could be raised by subscription or otherwise, and that the sum of five hundred dollars and upwards had been raised by subscription, also that the above named donation had been placed in his hands to be disposed of by the town for the purpose specified.
It was then voted that Judge Mellen be requested to disclose the name of the donor, who thereupon stated that the Donation was made by the Rev Francis Wayland D.D. of Providence R.I
It was then voted unanimously (by rising with uncovered heads) that the thanks of the Town be presented to the Rev. Dr Wayland for his generous donation and that this vote be

"Art 12 Voted to accept the 'sums' specified in the article"

"Art 13 Voted to refer the subject matter of this article to a committee consisting of the following persons viz: Edward Mellen, James S Draper, Walter Reeves, Henry Coggan, Samuel M Thomas, Abel Gleason, Joseph H Sherman, John B Wright, John W Allen, Edmund H Sears, they to report at April meeting"

"Art 14 Voted that the committee last named take the whole subject relating to the library under consideration and report at April meeting a code of by laws or regulations, the expenses of room &c.

Voted that Mr. Mellen retain the money in his hands till April meeting"

At meeting April 3 1848 Nathan S Johnson moderator under Art 11 to hear reports of Committees we find the records read

"Art 11 The committee chosen in reference to the town library made a partial report on motion the report was recommitted to be reported at some future meeting"

Warrant for Town Meeting to be held May 8, 1848 Nathan S Johnson, Chas A Damon, Lewis Jones Selectmen

"Art 3 To hear and act upon the report of the committee chosen in March last with reference to the Town Library and its appurtenances"

"Art 4 To determine the amount of money to be expended in the purchase of books and the mode of expending same"

"Art 5 To provide a suitable room or building in which said Library may be kept; and to grant money to defray the expense of the same or do or act in any way relative thereto"

"Art 6 To adopt a suitable code of regulations for the Library"

"Art 7 To choose all offices and committees necessary for the purchase of books and for the establishing of the Library"

Art 8 To do or act in any way relative to any matter concerning the Library not included in above articles.

At meeting May 8, 1848 Nathan S Johnson moderator the proceedings were as follows viz:

"Art 3 The committee chosen on the subject of the Library made a report, as on file, which was accepted by the town"

"Art 4 Adopted the report which recommended that five hundred dollars be now expended in the purchase of books"

Art 5 The subject of [illegible] being taken into consideration Judge Thelton made the following motion which passed in the affirmative as follows That the Assessors for the present year be directed to apportion the sum of five hundred dollars among all the tax paying inhabitants of the Town of Wayland to each his proportion according to his taxable estate for the current year and to each such proportion against the name of each tax payer and that the same be committed (in a separate column) with taxes for the present year regularly assessed to the collector for the current year and that said collector collect the same and that said collector pay all sum and sums of money collected as aforesaid into the Town Treasury and that the money collected as aforesaid be appropriated to the erection for a building and purchasing books for the use of the Wayland Town Library and that a committee of — persons be appointed to contract for and superintend the erection of said Library building the foregoing proportion to tax payers is to be optional.

Art 6 Adopted a code of by Laws as in the report.

Art 7 Chose a committee of seven to purchase books for the Library as follows Edward Mellen, John C Wright & H Dean, John Allen John H. Sherman, James M Bent, William C Grout

Voted that the above named persons constitute the Library Committee.

Voted to choose a committee of three to superintend the erection of a building provided a sufficient sum be obtained for that purpose and chose Richard Heard, James L Draper and Thomas J Damon.

Warrant for Town Meeting January 1, 1849

Art 4 To see if the town would have their committee proceed to purchase books for the Wayland Library under the present circumstances, and to see if the town will take any measures to provide a place for said Library to be kept

Of meeting January 1 1849 Nathan L Johnson Moderator the records read

Art 4 The subject of the Library being under consideration a petition from Luther Heard to erect a suitable building for the Library and to leave the same to the Town was made and read thereupon the town voted to [illegible]

of three persons to confer with Mr Gleason and report to the town at a future meeting. Luther Gleason Thomas Draper and Josiah Russell were chosen for said committee

Voted that said committee be requested to purchase Books for the Library as soon as may be convenient

Voted that that part of the meeting relating to the Library be adjourned one week at two o'clock P.M.

The records of the Adjourned meeting of Jany 8, 1848 viz

The Town met agreeably to adjournment and proceeded in the following manner the following votes were taken after hearing a proposition from Josiah Draper to build a room for the town Library and Lecture purposes, the offer favorable & such a condition, whereupon the town voted & instructed the Selectmen for the erection of such a building & to procure a site for the same for the term of five years. The Committee on the subject of a suitable site for a Library reported a communication from Josiah Draper and others accepted and ordered to be recorded which may be seen by reference thereto. Voted that the town raise the sum of Thirty Dollars annually for the term of five years of which the following proposal to be erected by Mr Draper shall be accepted and agreed to by the Wayland Library, which sum shall be appropriated to defray the expense of the Lease of said building.

Wayland Jan 8 1849 Signed [illegible]

The two following propositions were received and accepted by the town and ordered to be recorded from Ellis B. Brankhall, viz

Wayland Jan 8 1849

I will warrant to pay the town two dollars a year a year for five years towards paying the rent of the Library building, to commence on the third year after acceptance of the building Signed Ellis B Brankhall

I also propose to present to the town 25 Volumes of books for the Library, providing the Library building is built but will not if the Library committee elected on this day is reconsidered after this date

Wayland Jany 8, 1849 Signed Ellis B Brankhall

Warrant for Town Meeting November 12 1849 Article 4 To hear the report of committee to consult with Luther Gleason with respect to the Library building

[illegible] library and building

At Meeting November 12 1849 Moderator
The records read
Art 4 The committee on subject of library building made partial report, on motion the subject was referred back to the committee to report at a future time

Warrant for Town Meeting Jany 21 1850 reads
Art 3 To hear the report of any committee that may be ready to report on the subject of the town library or building for same & to act in relation to said library and to act in any thing relative to said library and a place for keeping the same

At Meeting Jany 21 1850 Moderator pro tem
records read
Art 3 The committee chosen to confer and contract with Mr Gleason on the subject of a building for the same reported that they had not attended to that duty and at their request were by vote excused from further service.
Mr Luther Gleason came forward and requested permission to withdraw his contract (or proposition to build a library building) which request on motion was granted.
A motion was made by Dr Leonard Wood to offer to Mr Gleason the sum of forty dollars per year for five years for the use of the building and land in a straight line to George Smiths corner provided he (Mr Gleason) shall cause to be put up suitable plank steps and agree not to use the cellar for any improper purpose. Passed in the affirmative and Mr Gleason being present declared his acceptance of the above proposition
The town then voted to choose a committee of six with full power to agree with Mr Gleason for his building or procure some suitable place for the library before March meeting. The following persons constituted the above named committee Rev John G Wright, Harvey Reeves, Artemus Bond, Nathan S Johnson, Tom Heard 2nd, James D Walker.

Warrant for Town Meeting March 4 1850. reads
Art 6 To hear the report of the committee chosen to provide a place for the reception of the town library and to act in any thing relative to said library and the fitting up of the place for the same
Art 7 To see if town will order any repairs or alterations in the town house.

At Meeting March 4 1850 Moderator pro tem
records read
Art 6 The committee mentioned in the article

Reported ... as follows that ... of the Town House, should be fitted up for the reception of the Library.
The Committee were then on motion discharged
Voted to choose a committee of three to fit up the rooms below in a proper manner for the reception of the library and to make such alterations in the town house as they may think proper.
Chose for their committee N.B. Braman, James Mt Bent, Josiah Russell.
Art 7 Voted that the committee just chosen make such alterations and repairs in the Town house as they may deem expedient and that they have power to borrow money on credit of the Town for the same purpose.

Connelly

1853

John Wright's circular promoting public libraries.

Wayland Jan. 1 1853.

The following Gentlemen in Boston have contributed a sufficient sum for the printing 4000 copies of a circular which I have recently written designed to promote the establishment of Public Libraries in all the cities and towns of the Commonwealth for the use and benefit of all their inhabitants.

Samuel Appleton	five	dollars
Jonathan Phillips	five	
Lyman	five	
John C. Gray	five	
Nathan Appleton	five	
Robert C. Winthrop	two	50 ct
Wm H. Knight	two	
Owen S. Garnett	two	
Rufus Cutler	two	

amounting to 33,50

the bill of Wilson and son for
printing the Circular was 33,50.
the same sum.
Chief Justice Shaw to whose perused
I first offered the Circular wished
me to rely on him for five dollars
towards the expense of printing
it, but as the sum contributed
by the above named gentlemen
was sufficient I have sent him
word that I should not find it
necessary to call on him for
the same.
Feb. 1. I have distributed copies of
the Circular to all the members
of the General Court in both
branches, to the Governor and
Council and principal officers
of the State to the Judges of the
Courts, the Presidents of the
Colleges, the Members of the

13 Board of Education the Mayors
of the cities, the Boards of Selectmen
and School Committees in all
the towns, and with the exception
of Boston in which the great
number of professional men rendered
it necessary to make a selection,
to all the Clergymen and Gentle-
men of the bar, and many Members
of the medical profession, and to
all the Editors of Newspapers and
Periodicals in every part of the
Commonwealth, and also to several
distinguished friends of universal
education of whom I have learned
to the amount of more than
3000 copies.

WAYLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

Wayland Free Publ
Library.

November, 1847 Town Meeting

"Article 7: To hear any report of any committee of the Town, that may be ready to report and act thereon at the pleasure of the meeting."

Disposition of Article 7:

"At the suggestion of Edward Mellen Esq. a committee was chosen to confer with him, on the subject of a room for a library, consisting of the following persons, James S. Draper, Hervey Reeves, Henry Coggin, Samuel M. Thomas, William Heard 2d and John N. Sherman."

March 1848 Town Meeting

"Article 11: To hear from any individual any communication, proposition or statement respecting a Town Library and do or act in any way relative thereto, or to any subject connected therewith."

Disposition of Article 11:

"This article being under consideration, Mr. Mellen stated that "A Friend of Wayland" had offered to give the town the sum of Five hundred dollars for the purchase of a Library for the use of the town provided an equal sum could be raised by subscription or otherwise, and that the sum of five hundred dollars and upwards had been raised by subscription. also that the above named donation had been placed in his hands, to be disposed of by the town for the purpose specified. It was then voted that Judge Mellen be requested to disclose the name of the Donor, who thereupon stated that the Donation was made by the Rev. Francis Wayland, D.D. of Providence, R.I. It was voted unanimously (by rising with uncovered heads) that the thanks of the town be present to the Rev. Dr. Wayland for his generous donation and that this voted be communicated to him by Judge Mellen."

"Article 12: To see if the town will accept the sum of Five Hundred dollars offered by a "Friend of Wayland," for the purpose of purchasing a Library for the use of the whole town, together with a sum exceeding that above named, raised by subscription for the same purpose--and to determine the mode of expending the whole amount or any part thereof.

Disposition of Article 12:

"Voted to accept the sums of money specified in this article."

"Article 13: To see if the Town will provide a suitable room or building in which said Library may be kept, or do or act in any way relative thereto.

Disposition of Article 13:

"Voted to refer the subject matter of this article to a committee consisting of the following persons viz. Edward Mellen, James S. Draper, Walter Reeves, Henry Coggin, Samuel M. Thomas, Abel Gleason, John N. Sherman, John B. Wight, John W. Allen, Edmund H. Sears, they to report at April meeting."

March 1848 Town Meeting, Continued

"Article 14: To choose all committees or agents necessary for a proper reception of the donations referred to in the 12th Article - for the purchase of books, for the preparation of a code of suitable regulations for the Library - and for any other object connected therewith."

Disposition of Article 14:

"Voted that the committee last named take the whole subject relating to the Library, under consideration, and report at April meeting - a code of bylaws or regulations, the expense of room, etc.

"Voted that Mr. Mellen retain the money in his hand till April meeting."

April 1848 Town Meeting

"Article 11: To hear the report of any committee or agent that may be ready to report, and act thereon."

Disposition of Article 11:

"The committee chosen in reference to the Town Library made a partial report, on motion the report was recommitted to be reported at some future meeting."

May 1848 Town Meeting

"Article 3: To hear and act upon the report of the committee chosen in March last, with reference to the "Town Library" and its appurtenances."

Disposition of Article 3:

"The Committee chosen on the subject of the Library, made a report as on file, which was accepted by the Town."

"Article 4: To determine the amount of money to be expended in the purchase of books and the mode of expending the same."

Disposition of Article 4:

"Adopted the report, which recommended that five hundred dollars be now expended in the purchase of books."

"Article 5: To provide a suitable room or building in which said Library may be kept; and to grant money to defray the expense of the same, or do or act in any way relative thereto."

Disposition of Article 5:

May 8, 1848 Town Meeting, Continued

Disposition of Article 5:

"The subject of furnishing a room being under consideration, Judge Mellen made the following motion which passed in the affirmative, as follows. That the Assessord for the current year be directed to apportion the sum of five hundred dollars among all the tax paying inhabitants of the town of Wayland, to each his proportion, according to his taxable estate for the current year, and set such proportion against the name of each tax-payer, and that the same be committed (in a separate column) with the taxes for the present year regularly assessed, to the Collector for the current year; and that said collector collect the same; and that said collector pay all sum and sums, by him collected as aforesaid into the town Treasury; and that the money collected as aforesaid be appropriated to the erection of a building and furnishing fixtures for the use of the Wayland Town Library and that a committee of ___ persons be appointed to contract for, and superintend the the erection of said Library building: the foregoing proportion to taxpayers is to be optional.

"Article 6: To adopt a suitable code of regulations for the Library."

Disposition of Article 6:

"Adopted a code of bylaws as in the report."

"Article 7: To choose all officers and committees necessary for the purchase of books and the establishing of the Library."

Disporition of Article 7:

"Chose a committee of seven to purchase books for the Library as follows, Edward Mellen, John B. Wight, E.H. Sears, John W. Allen, John N. Sherman, James M. Bent, William C. Grout. Voted that the above named persons constitute the Library Committee.

"Voted to choose a committee of three to superintend the erection of a builting provided a sufficient sum be obrained for that purpose, and chose Richard Heard, James S. Draper and Thomas J. Damon, Committee.

"Article 8: To do or act in any way relative to any matter concerning the Library, not included in the above articles."

Disposition of Article 8:

"The town voted to abate the tax set against Henry Child at the request of Wm. Heard 2d Collector for 1846. also the tax of the following viz. Convers Francis - McKay, Alfred Adams, Felix Golding, Hugh McGonical, Jas. E. Field at the request of Leonard Wood, Collector for 1847."

January 1, 1849 Town Meeting

"Article 4: To see if the town would have their committee proceed to purchase books for the Wayland Library, under the present circumstances, and to see if the town will take any measures to provide a place for said Library to be kept."

January 1, 1849 Town Meeting, Continued

Disposition of Article 4:

"The subject of the Library being under consideration a proposition from Luther Gleason to build a suitable building for the Library and to lease the same to the town, was made by F.F. Heard. Thereupon the town voted to choose a committee of three persons to confer with Mr. Gleason and report to the town at a future meeting. Abel Gleason, James Draper and Josiah Russell were chosen for said committee.

"Voted that the committee be requested to purchase Books for the Library as soon as may be convenient.

"Voted that that part of the meeting relating to the Library be adjourned one week, at two o'clock P.M."

January 8, 1849 Town Meeting

"The town met agreeably to adjournment and proceeded with their business as follows. The committee chosen at the last meeting to receive a proposition from Luther Gleason to build a room for the town Library and lease the same reported favorably of such proposition, whereupon the town voted that the same committee be authorized to contract for the erection of such a building to be leased to the town for the term of fifteen years, the Chairman of said committee was by vote authorized to take a lease of said building for the term of fifteen years.

"The following communication was then made to the town by James Draper and by vote was accepted and ordered to be recorded to wit, This may certify to all whom it may concern that I will pay the town of Wayland the sum of thirty dollars annually for two years from the time at which the Library building proposed to be erected by Mr. Luther Gleason shall be accepted and used by (the) town for the Wayland Library, which sum shall be appropriated to defray the expense of the lease of said building."

"The following two propositions were received and accepted by the town and ordered to be recorded, from Ellis B. Bramhall, to wit,

"Wayland, Jan. 8, 1849

"I will guaranty to pay the town five dollars a year, for five years, towards paying the rent of the Library building, to commence on the third year after the acceptance of the building

signed Ellis B. Bramhall

"I also propose to present to the town 25 volumes of books for the Library, provided the Library building is built, but will not, if the Library business acted on this day, is reconsidered after this date.

signed Ellis B. Bramhall

Wayland, January 8, 1849"

April 2, 1849 Town Meeting

"Article 13: To order the disposal of the money which has been paid into the Treasury for the purpose of erecting a Library building."

Disposition of Article 13:

"Voted that the Collector be requested to refund the money to those from whom it was collected.

November 12, 1849 Town Meeting

"Article 14: To hear the report of the committee to confer with Luther Gleason with respect to the Library building, and act as they may see fit, relative to the Library and building."

Disposition of Article 14:

"The Committee on the subject of the Library building made a partial report, on motion the subject was referred back to the Committee, to report at a future time."

January 21, 1850 Town Meeting

"Article 3: To hear the report of any committee that may be ready to report on the subject of the Town Library or building for said Library, and do or act in any way relative to said Library and a place for keeping the same."

Disposition of Article 3:

"The committee chosen to confer and contract with Mr. L. Gleason on the subject of a building for the Library and a lease for the same reported that they had not attended to that duty, and at their request were by vote, excused from further service.

"Mr. Luther Gleason came forward and requested permission to withdraw his contract (or proposition to build a Library building) which request on motion was granted.

"A motion was made by Leonard Wood to offer to L. Gleason the sum of thirty dollars per year for five years, for the lease of his building and land in a straight line to George Smith's corner, provided he (Mr. Gleason) shall cause to be put up suitable plank steps and agree not to use the cellar for any imporper purpose, passed in the affirmative. Mr. Gleason being present declined the above proposition.

"The town then voted to choose a Committee of six with full powers to agree with Mr. Gleason for his building, or procure some suitable place for the Library before March meeting.

The following persons constitute the abovenamed committee: Rev. John B. Wight, Hervey Reeves, Artemas Bond, Nathan S. Johnson, William Heard 2d, James D. Walker.

March 4, 1850 Town Meeting

"Article 6: To hear the report of the committee chosen to provide a place for the reception of the town Library, and do or act in any way relative to said Library, and the fitting up a place for the same."

Disposition of Article 6:

"The Committee mentioned in this article reported verbally, as follows, that the two lower rooms in the town house should be fitted up for the reception of the Library. The Committee were then on motion discharged.

"Voted to choose a committee of three to fit up the rooms below, in a porper manner for the reception of the Library and to make such alterations in the town house as they think proper. Chose for their committee:

H.B. Braman
Jas. M. Bent
Josiah Russell

"Article 7: To see if the town will order any repairs or alterations in the town house."

Disposition of Article 7:

"Voted that the committee just chosen be directed to make such alterations and repairs in the town house, as they may deem expedient, and that they have power to borrow money on the credit of the town, for the above purpose."

April 1, 1850 Town Meeting

"Article 18: To choose all necessary Library officers."

Disposition of Article 18:

"Chose the following persons Library Committee
Edward Mellen, Wm. R. Dudley & Sulvester Reeves, Chm.,
James S. Draper, Treasurer"

May 27, 1850 Town Meeting

"Article 3: To hear the report of any Committee and act any way relative thereto."

Disposition of Article 3:

"The Committee chosen to repair the Town House made a report in part, and on motion, were instructed to procure a table suitable for the Library room, and new settees for the Twon Hall and to dispose of the old seals in the same."

August 19, 1850 Town Meeting

"Article 3: To see if the town will alter the Library regulations or act in any way relative to the Library."

Disposition of Article 3:

"The town then proceeded to take up the Library Regulations and on motion of Mr. Braman the 4th article was stricken out and one substituted in its place as on file, then on motion of Mr. William Heard 2d, voted that the Committee be instructed to close the Library until such times as it can be opened in conformity to the By-laws.

"Voted that when the Library is ready to be reopened that notice of the same be given by posting notices at the same places as are the warrants for notifying town meetings."

March 3, 1851 Town Meeting

"Article 7: To hear the report of any Committee and act thereon.

Disposition of Article 7:

"The committee chosen in March last to make any repairs or alterations in the Town Hall building, reported verbally that the expense of such repairs and alterations as have been made amount to four hundred and seventy-two dollars."

April 7, 1851 Town Meeting

"Article 8: To grant money to supply the deficiency of a former grant for the repair of the Town House."

Disposition of Article 8:

"Granted to supply deficiency $210,00

"Article 15: To hear the report of the Treasurer of the Wayland Town Library and of the Committees connected therewith."

"To determine what amount of money shall be expended for books for the Library for the year ensuing or do or act in any way relative thereto and to choose all necessary Library Officers for the year ensuing."

Disposition of Article 15:

"Accepted the report of the Treasurer of the Wayland Library.

"Accepted the report of the Committee on purchasing Books. Aldo heard and accepted the report of the Library Committee.

"Voted that the purchasing Committee be instructed to lay out the remaining money for Books.

April 7, 1851 Town Meeting, Continued

Disposition of Article 15, Continued:

"Voted that $21,04½ being incidental expences of Library be paid out of any unappropriated money in the Treasury.

"Voted that the Purchasing Committee confer with the Rev. Dr. Wayland on the subject of his visit and invite him to address the Inhabitants also to make all necessary arrangements at the expense of the town.

"Then chose Edward Mellen, William N. Dudley, S. Reeves, jr Library Committee

"Chose James S. Draper, Treasurer of the Library."

May 26, 1851 Town Meeting

"Article 3: To see if the town will authorise and direct the School district Libraries to be placed in the town Library and to form a part of the town Library, or act in any manner relative thereto."

Disposition of Article 3:

"Passed over."

"Article 4: To see if the town will choose a Committee to make further provision for building shelves or alcoves, for books in the town Library room, or act in any way thereon.

Disposition of Article 4:

"The former committee on repairs etc. on Townhouse were directed to make the necessary additions of shelves in Library."

November 10, 1851 Town Meeting

"Article 4: To see if the town will direct the School District Libraries to be placed in, and become a part of the town Library."

Disposition of Article 4:

"Voted to move the District School Libraries to the Central Library."

"Voted that the thanks of the town be presented to the Rev. Dr. Wayland through Judge Mellen for his late donation of twenty five dollars towards the increase of the Library."

April 3, 1852 Town Meeting

"Article 9: To hear the report of Treasurer of Wayland Town Library and of the Committees connected therewith to grant money for the support of the Library - to choose all necessary Library officers for the year ensuing; and to make any alteration in the byelaws of the Library."

Disposition of Article 9:

"Heard and accepted the report of the Treasurer of the Wayland Library.

"Voted to authorise the Treasurer to collect all monies belonging to the Library.

"Heard and accepted the report of Library Committee.

"Voted that the hou of opening the Library be changed from 7 to 6 from October to March. Also authorized the Library Committee tp make any other alterations in the laws of the same they shall see fit.

"Then chose: James S. Draper — Treasurer
Edward Mellen
Wm. N. Dudley — Library Committee
S. Reeves, jr.

April 4, 1853 Town Meeting

"Article 12: To hear the report of the Treasurer of the Wayland Town Library and of the Committees connected therewith and to grant money for the support of the Library and to choose all necessary Library officers for the year ensuing."

Disposition of Article 12:

"Heard and accepted the report of the Treasurer of the Wayland Library also the report of the Purchasing Committee. Granted for expenses of the Library and purchase of Books $75.

"Voted to authorise the Library Committee to expend a part of the above Seventy five dollars for a Bulletin board for the Library.

"Chose Edward Mellen, J.B. Wight, J.N. Sherman — Committee
"Chose James S. Draper — Treasurer"

LIBRARY-
HISTORY

James Draper
letter

1349

This may certify, to all whom it may concern, that I will pay the town of Wayland the sum of ~~Fifteen~~ Thirty dollars annually for two years from the time at which the Library building, proposed to be erected by Mr. Luther Gleason, shall be accepted and used by town, for the "Wayland Library"; which sum shall be appropriated to defray the expense of the Lease of said building.

Wayland Jany 8th 1849. - James Draper

REV. MR. WIGHT AND FREE LIBRARIES.

To the Editor of the Christian Register: —

Rev. Mr. Pendleton and Mr. Morison are both undoubtedly right in asserting the Peterboro (N.H.) Library to be the oldest in the United States, as I cheerfully acknowledge, in correction of my statement concerning the Wayland Public Library. The moral of the incident to me is, "Keep your critical spirit awake." However trustworthy ancient tradition may be, according to Mr. Herford, or however untrustworthy, according to Mr. Wicksteed, here is a very good instance of the weakness of *modern* tradition.

Looking into the matter, I find that the first books were delivered from the Wayland Library on Aug. 7, 1850. After three years interval from the acceptance of a donation from Dr. Wayland, Rev. Mr. Wight, for the benefit, primarily, of the town he represented in the Legislature of 1851, drew up and carried through the act 'to authorize cities and towns to establish and maintain public libraries" (approved May 24, 1851). On the 16th of August, 1852, the City Council of New Bedford passed an ordinance taking advantage of the act; and their library was opened on the 3d of March following. Mark now the claim made in their *first* annual report of its trustees (1853): "No such institution as that whose first report is now submitted to the government of our city has ever thrown open its doors to the public in this or any other country. Ours is the first Free Public Library." The second report speaks of the New Bedford Library as "the pioneer undertaking of the Commonwealth." A building was erected and dedicated on Aug. 28, 1856. On that occasion, Mr. Congdon spoke of "our library, the first whose doors were ever opened, established by the people and for the people." Twice more in the report of the proceedings is the same assertion made. In fact, the Wayland Library had been in full operation, within sixty miles of New Bedford, for over a year and a half, before the second library was opened! Thus is history often made. As late as 1860, the claim was again asserted for New Bedford by an alderman of Worcester, as uncritical as myself. In point of fact, the former city was the first municipal corporation in the State to avail itself of the Library Act, the Wayland Free Library is the oldest in Massachusetts, and the Peterboro Library the oldest in the country. (I fear Mr. Morison will not be able to prove his claim that it is the oldest in the world, any more than the Middlesex County *Atlas* can substantiate the same difficult assertion which it makes concerning Wayland.)

My purpose in this note, however, is simply to record two or three facts of interest in the history of free libraries, whether supported by towns or not. Rev. Mr. Wight, on taking up his residence in Wayland, in 1815, found in existence a Social Library, founded in 1796, but in a state of decline. "Soon after his settlement" (I quote from manuscript notes of the present excellent librarian), "he commenced the formation of a library composed largely of moral and religious books for the free distribution and

FRANCIS WAYLAND

n d. 1850

bet as it now is, for the simple reason that we have only twenty-six letters to represent some forty different elementary sounds. With a letter for each of these sounds and representing that sound only, the way for reform would be clear. We find in common print some four hundred different ways to represent these elementary sounds, either by a single letter or by two or more.

To give an idea of the present difficulties: when the reader sees the letter *e*, he has a choice of five different ways for its pronunciation, and only his previous knowledge or the help of a kind friend can make him sure of the right one. On the other hand, suppose one wishes to represent in print the sound of long *o*, he has thirteen different ways in which to do it, as will be seen in *beau, row, boat, toe, note, floor, soul, yeoman, sew, hautboy, owe, oh, O!* and, as for the twenty ways for representing the sound of long *e*, I will leave them to be discovered by your readers.

The remedy is obvious: to apply it is the difficulty. C. H. R.

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CHRISTIANITY IN ITS CRADLE.

To the Editor of the Christian Register:—

I am anxious to interest your readers in a hoped-for work by that rare and admirable scholar, of equally rare moral courage and integrity of mind, Francis W. Newman, entitled "Christianity in its Cradle." By what seems almost a caprice, which may prove a real gain in future, our younger scholars have been most attracted to the antiquities and criticism of the Old Testament, leaving almost unexplored the questions of far deeper interest and greater value, which concern the origin and early growth of Christianity. They may look forward with eagerness to this newly promised stimulus and help. The period to be covered is, I believe, from the time of the Maccabees to about the middle of the second Christian century. In a letter received a few weeks back, Prof. Newman says, in words which will deeply move those who recall his honorable history, that he hopes, in a series of volumes, to complete the service he is desirous to render "before I am in my grave. My age will be seventy-nine next mid-summer: therefore, I ought to be ripe!"

In a letter received from him to-day, he says that it "has always been with me an axiom and starting point,—the certainty that we have freedom and are not machines, and the impossibility of maintaining ethics *as a theory* or society *as a polity* without it. No material science can explode or shake this certainty. I am not quite sure that you say, with me, that gravitation and cohesion, etc., are manifestly and undeniably *divine forces*. The Hutchinsonians who ridiculed Newton's doctrine of gravitation would be quite right, if Newton had held particles of matter to attract one another according to

FRANCIS WAYLAND
Death. 1865

?? meeting of the citizens of Wayland was held at their library room on Saturday evening October 7th 1865 to consider & adopt appropriate measure relative to the death of thei their distinguished benefactor, Dr. Francis Wayland. David Heard Esq. was called to preside, and James S. Draper was chosen secretary.

A committee, consisting of Hon. Edward Mellen, Rev. Edmund Sears, & Edward A. Pierce Esq. was appointed to prepare a plan of business for the meeting. Te following resolutions were submitted through the Rev. Mr. Sears for the consideration of the meeting.

(B) Under a motion to adopt the above resolutions an eloquent address was made by M Judge Mellen, embracing a general view of the life & character of Dr. Wayland, illustrated by interesting reminiscences, occurring during many years of intimate personal acquaintance. Other remarks were made, appropriate to the occasion, when the resolutions were unanimously adopted and Judge Mellen was apppointed to transmit them with the proceeding of the meeting to the family of Dr. Wayland

copy

James S. Draper
Secretary

transcription
~~Copy~~ of Hist. Soc. paper

1871

Wayland March 6 1871 The Town met pursuant to warrant
was read and accepted as [illegible] action
was taken viz.

Article 1. L Dudley was chosen Moderator
" 2. chose J A Roby Town Clerk sworn
" 3. H. Heard report of Town Treas. voted to adopt the same.
Report of Select men was read and accepted.
" " Overseers of Poor was read and accepted.
Voted to accept Auditors Report

Heard verbal report of H. Heard on Suit with Town of Ware
Voted to instruct the agent to take depositions if thought best.

Art. 2 chose. L. H. Sherman A B Lyon & A. F. Bryant all sworn Select Men
Assessors / Lafayette Dudley. S. Reeves. Jonas N. Moore all sworn
Overseers of Poor. L Dudley. Wm H Bemis sworn H. Heard
Treasurer Henry Wright. sworn
School Com L. H. Sherman /
Constables. Chas. W Moore sworn & Edward Carter
Fence Viewers. all sworn J J Damon. A Gleason & S M Thomas
+9 Highway Surveyors. all sworn Jas N Hammond. J J Damon
3 S M Thomas. E A Pierce. Samuel E. Baldwin
C H Campbell. J D Moulton. E W Giles. Roger Sherman
× 2 Field Drivers. Wm Sanderson sworn John F. Elliott not sworn
× 2 Surveyors of Lumber, C R Damon sworn Abel Gleason W. E. G sworn
×1 Pound Keeper. ~~E A Pierce~~ C. W. Reeves / E. A. Pierce
3 Measurers of Wood. H Gilbert Bent. C L Howard W. C. Grout
Ed. Carter.
1+ Sealers of Weights & Measures Wm C. Grout sworn
× Auditor S. Reeves
× Supt of Burial Ground J. D. Walker
× Trustees of Allen Fund J. J. Damon J S Draper S M Thom
× Agent of Town Clock. Referred to S. Men to appoint

the proceedings is the same assertion made. | ing their pull so as to fulfill the law of dis-

† Library Committee —

Art: 9. voted a committee of S. Joshua Gill. ~~Wm Hammond~~
L. H. Sherman. Henry R Newton Charles H Campbell
& S. M. Thomas. to investigate the Subject

Art: 8. Voted to pass over the article

x Art: 3. voted to adopt conditions of S Reeves in writing on the payt of taxes

2 x voted to let out the coll of the taxes (so much for the whole) they were bid off by Chas H Campbell for 125 Dollars and he was then chosen collector by Ballot —

4 x voted to adopt 5 motions in writing of S Reeves
voted that he (S R) be authorized to buy such blank books as are set forth in his propositions now adopted.

5 † Heard Report of J S Draper and accepted the Same
voted that the Lib Com. make the exchanges with other towns of memorial books.
voted that the books be kept at the Town Library in charge of the Librarian for the time being
voted that a copy of the Memorial Book be presented to Rev. E H Sears & Lafayette Dudley.

x 2 voted that S D Robbins. Josh Gill. J B Wright E. K. Drake & Joseph A Roby be the Library Com.
Abel Gleason was chosen Financial agent on behalf of the town on the Mass Cen. R R.

7 voted that the town instruct the overseers to commence a suit at law against the town of Wareham for the board of Mrs Davis for the last 2 years

art. 6. voted to abate taxes as asked by the Collector for 67
as follows O Eastman $1.50 Samuel Winch 2.67
Thomas English 2.67. L. S. Graham 2.67. A Whitehouse
2.67. Wentworth Van Tassell 2.67. L. Sliker 2.67
7 Eastman 2.67 Thomas Henderson 2.67. Oscar Tuttle 2.67
Michel Skeine 2.67.

voted to adjourn this meeting to the first
monday in April at 12 o'clock M.

1888
piece on Wayland
library by A.W. Cutting

Copy of article which appeared in the Jan.14, 1888 in the Boston Evening Transcript.

WAYLAND.

Written for the Library Prize by A.W.Cutting.

The Placid of the Town Which Gave Birth to the Idea of the Free Public Library

WAYLAND, Jan 9.- In a quiet valley in the midst of Middlesex County, by a Placid river winding through its far-reaching meadows all aurrounded by gently rising uplands and hills, lies one of the most beautiful and perhaps of the best known towns in eastern Massachusetts.

Until recently, cut off from steam communication with the outer world, the little village has quietly existed, its interests centered in itself,with no great thourhtof what might lie over the hills on either side out in the world. In this quiet nook the old-time life has lingered longer than some of its more ambitious neighbors, no factory pollutes its pure air, not a suggestion of manufacturing disturbs the seronity of its streets,save the clink of the blacksmith's hammer from the open shop door, or over in the brook valley a slumberousr rumbling the little old gray water-mill buried under its willows by its woods-surrounded mill-pond, where, since the earliest days of the town of Wayland grists have been ground.

A farming community-the fine old meadows farms in many instances descending in one family from the Indian broad arrow mark of the first deeds. For 250 yearssome of these old names run through the town records and among the present officers of the First Parish are some names appear as founders of the first church, whose presentbeautiful old house has tood on its roomy enclosure under its noble elms for nearly 80 years- Wayland's elms are famous. On either side of its main street, and over nearly all its old homesteads, and as they lie throughout the town, the great elms of the grandfathers spread their branches with a beauty that no other tree knows.

BIRTHPLACE OF FREE LIBRARIES

Quiet and secluded as the little town has been, its influence has gone forth in many ways for good, and done much of which it makes no boast. Strong and beautiful characters have lived here and done their work for man-kind. Wayland is the birthplace of one of the noblest institutions, the free town library. Rev. J.F.Wright for 60 years pastor of the First Parish Church, while a representative to the general court in the year 1851, introduced a bill authorizing towns of Massachusetts to maintain Free Public Libraries, and in Wayland was started froma small nucleus- the present public library.

Dr. Francis Wayland, of Brown University, at a reception given in his honor in the town at this time, gave to the library a sum of money, making a good foundation for the splendid collection that now forms the chief pride of our town. Situated in the middle of the village, in finely appointed, commodious rooms in the building of the new town hall;rooms built to contain every requirement of it, as upwards of 10,000 volumes, its roomy, well-lighted reading rooms,supplied with periodicals, its museum of Indian relics gathered from the woods and fields of the town,making one of the finest collections of Indian stone utensils existing,its Revolutionary relics deposited here by townspeople for the benefit of all, and its portraits of the benefactors of the town,all make the Wayland town library are worthy of the pioneer free public libraryof the state.It is just to call attention to the debt it owes its

former veteran librarian;also the historian and antiquarian of the town, where interest and labors have been so instrumental in bringing it to its present condition.

THE OLD YELLOW STAGE

For years after the railroad whistle was heard over the hills on all sidesof the valley, Wayland had no means of communication with the outer world other than its daily stagecoach to and from Boston, bringing in the mail and the one excitement of the day. The old yellow stage with its creakin "through braces" and four horses made its leisurely progress through the shaded trees until four or five years ago. We remember the rotund white bearded old driver, who knew everyone, man woman and child in the place, and who was finally obliged to relinquish his reins owing to a tendency to fall asleep on his box, oblivious of the calls of would-be travelers. It is not long ago that the stage horn,blown on the crest of Horses hill as the stage came down into town at night, warned the townspeople to gather at the littl e one storied "Old Red Store" to get the mail; and they are not yet old who recollect old "Uncle Newell" as he sobted the mail as it lay on the counter before him, holding each letter up to the light with aggravating care, and slowly reading the whole address, perhaps adding a dry remark at the expenxe of sender or receiver.

But the opening of the Massachusetts central railroad through the town in 1881, swept away some of the old characteristics of the town and the old stage was the first to go.Now, with nine trains of the fine cars of the Boston and Lowell Railroad each day during the day, Wayland is brought within thirty-two minutes of Boston- moved up as it were , to be a suburb of t e great city.

But beyond the luxury of the cars running through the town there is little change here. A quiet, peaceful little place it remains, with no occupations other than farms. However the beauty of the place-its river woods and hills are attracting people of means and refinement, and gradually our town is increasing its number of pleasant and beautiful homes.

A BIRD'S-EYE VIEW

A visit to Reeves Hill-the highest of the Wayland hills- shows the town below spread out like a map. There in a cluster of elms is the village, its two church towers rising above the tree tops, the high school building, and the outlying farms,with their great barns and well-kept houses.. To the west of the town lie the water meadows, with the placid Concord winding like a thread of silver through their expanse. Then a bridge spans the river- the Island road" leading to Pelham pond, which we see sparkling to the south-west. Farr off across the meadows we see the beautiful old stone arches of the "Causeway bridges " half hidden beneath the willows. From the rocky pasture where we stand, nothing rises between us and the blue New Hampshire Wachusett and Monadnock dominate in the west and north, while nearer the Sudbury,Lincoln and Waltham hills rise about us.

Down below the quiet old town with its pure air and water and its peaceful life. A visit to the old burying ground shows their result on the fathers of the town as recorded on the old gray stones. These tell the good old ages achieved by the sleepers below-many reaching far beyond four score- yes, fourscore and ten. A quiet old resting place this! A warm gentle slope to the south, surrounded by ever-murmuring pines. Here we see the

site of the first church, which we are told was of logs and built to serve as a defense against the Indians.Here the old gray stones- th e oldest placed flaton the ground and deeply sunken in it-bear dates covering two centuries and a half. Gray moss hides the rudely cut latters,the tall brown grasses waive above and the blackberry vines trail across them, while the pines stand guard around. And in winter, when snow has softly covered all, the outstretched arms of the pines sink in yet closer protection over their charge below, quietly hushing every sound with their soothing voice, and bidding our fathers sleep on.

Alfred Wayland Cutting.

Roby
Library benefactor

Miscellaneous Newspaper Accounts

death of Warren Roby

fr Warren G. Roby, a Boston ant, whose summer home was in and and who died nearly two s ago, left a generous sum of ey for a new public library building e town of Wayland, and a lot of most advantageously situated, upon which it was to be built. Plans have been accepted and work already begun upon the foundations of the building, which is to be of granite and stone, and will be finished before the first of July, 1900. This will be a fitting memorial to its donor, Mr Roby, as well as to Pres Wayland of Brown university, whose gift of $500 to the town for the purpose of purchasing books as a beginning of a library was made in recognition of a corner of the town, then a part of Sudbury, being named for him. It will also be a recognition of the prestige Wayland has of being the first town in Massachusetts to establish a free library.

—Mrs Warren G. Roby returned last ek to her winter home at the Mari- oro, after a summer passed at her es- ate in Wayland. Mr Roby, whose ath occurred about a year ago, left a nerous sum of money to be spent upon ublic library building for the town, l also a lot of land, a part of the es- he inherited from his ancestor, Dr Roby, who was for many years the only physician of the neighborhood, oftentimes going on horseback to attend patients in Framingham, Sudbury and Concord. Mr Roby's grandmother, who lived to be nearly a hundred, was present at a party given in the old Bigelow house in honor of Gen Washington, when he danced with Miss Bigelow, a daughter of the house, which is still standing. The library is to be built at once, and will probably be ready for use next summer. Wayland was the first town in the state to establish a public brary.

—The people in Wayland will feel a deep sense of personal loss in the death of Mr Warren G. Roby, which occurred at his summer home in that town a few days ago. Mr Roby was forward in all progressive and benevolent enterprises, and deeply interested in everything that pertained to the welfare of his native town. His nature was generous and kindly, one evidence of it being his noble gift of a generous sum of money to the town for a building for their library, which has the honor of being the first free public town library established in this state. It contains many thousands of volumes, both old and new, is absolutely free to all the townspeople and to the summer visitors, and heretofore has had a place in one of the rooms of the town hall building. The new library will be erected on an attractive spot on the old Concord road, and will be of the most approved modern architecture.

Sarah Elizabeth Hawkes.
3d librarian
1885 - 1901

from vertical file 1954

second free library in Mass.

To the Editor of The Herald:

A news item in The Herald states "A citation noting the 100th anniversary of the Boston Public Library will be presented to Milton E. Lord. The award, citing the library as "the oldest and one of the greatest municipal libraries in the world," will be presented by Philip J. McNiff."

I concede that the Boston Public Library is one of the greatest municipal libraries in the world; and the oldest with the exception of the Free Public Library of New Bedford, Massachusetts . . .

The Free Public Library of New Bedford celebrated its centennial on March 3, 1953. Being a public matter, the apparent historical error should be publicly rectified. What answer does the Massachusetts Library Association make to this offer of proof and consequent dissent to the description "oldest"?

WILLIAM M. CONROY.
New Bedford.

declined to publish

3/3/54

Wayland the Oldest

To the Editor of The Herald:

I would like to put an end to the current controversy over the oldest free public library in Massachusetts.

A check of the records will show that Wayland voted for a free public library at a town meeting in 1848 and that the first books circulated in 1850. The following year the Legislature authorized the town to spend money for such a purpose.

The Wayland Library must take a second place to Peterborough, N. H., with respect to being the oldest free public library in the nation. Perhaps Mr. Pearson can verify!

If we should choose to go back to the earlier semi-public libraries I am sure that we would have many eager contenders. The important thing, however, is not the age of the library, but the very fact that it exists, serving at the frontier of public education and enjoyment.

GEORGE K. LEWIS.
Wayland.

By Les Hall

Sudbury's Goodnow Library has the distinction of being the second free public library established in Massachusetts; the first being in the adjoining territory of Wayland. Sudbury's institution lacks but eight years in reaching its one-hundredth birthday, the building having opened its doors to the public of Sudbury in the year 1864.

Means for building and establishing the library came through the bequest of a John Goodnow, who was born in Sudbury. At his death he was a resident of Boston where he had become a prosperous merchant. The first portion of his will related to setting up funds for the purpose. It read thus:

"First: I give, devise, and bequeath unto my native town of Sudbury, in the County of Middlesex, the sum of Twenty-thousand Dollars, to be appropriated for the purpose of purchasing and keeping in order a Public Library, for the benefit of the inhabitants of that Town

Second clause in the library bequest outlined the giver's desires gave land for the library, cash for its actual construction. This read

"Second: I also give, devise and bequeath to the said town of Sudbury, three acres of land on the northerly part of the Sudbury Tavern Estate (presently the site of the Hill property), adjoining the land of Howe Brown (presently Brennan residence), beginning at Meeting House Road (now Concord Road), and running with equal width with Brown's land to the brook, for the purpose of erecting thereon a suitable building for a Library; and the further sum of Twenty-five Hundred Dollars for the erection of such building; and whatever portion of said land shall not be needed for the purpose of said library building, the said town of Sudbury shall have full power and authority to apply to any other town purposes, but without any power of alienation."

This was early in the year 1862. The town was delighted with the chance for a free public library. A town meeting was called for April 7, 1862, when it was voted to accept the gift. Selectmen, James Moore, John H. Dakin and George Parmenter were appointed to accept the bequest and give receipt for the same. A resolution was passed, saying:

"Resolved by the Inhabitants of Sudbury, in Town Meeting assembled, That we accept with thankfulness the noble bequests given to the Town by the late John Goodnow of Boston; and that, as an evidence of our gratitude, we pledge ourselves to endeavor to the utmost of our ability, Honestly and Honorably to carry out the benevolent intentions of the Donor."

On July 14th of that year, the Town instructed a building committee to start work on the building, specifying in its instructions that the cost should not exceed $2500. The job was completed on April 1864, and the committee reported it had spent $2691.35, including an item of $32.43 for the landscaping. We can find no controversy over the increase for construction, so we assume they dug up the hundred and fifty odd dollars from other sources. The library opened with some 2300 books available.

The original library was very small, and of peculiar enough design. It resembled a brick turret. One story in height, it had a square windowed tower above, the latter designed to provide additional light to the reading room below.

Today the library resembles in no way the structure of 186[illegible] Over the years the building has been considerably enlarged. Its lines now are simple and attractive, its brown-red brick showing here and there through a cool green mantle of ivy. And, considerably increased too is the book inventory, with thousands of volumes available to those among us who find pleasure still in the written word. The library serves also in a manner of museum, with many interesting exhibits to do with life as is, and as it was.

John Goodnow, the library donor, died in his seventieth year. He was descended from a long line of distinguished Sudbury citizens stemming back to the town's beginning. As was his wish, his remains were brought back to the town of his birth, where now he rests in a tomb bearing his name at Sudbury Centre.

present . . . . . .

ain Library 5 Concord Road — ELmwood 8-2311

Hours: 10 a.m.-1 p.m.; 2 p.m.-6 p.m. Weekdays.
m.-8:30 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Friday.
ed Sunday and Holidays.

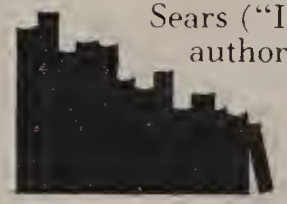
chituate Branch 14 East Plain Street
e Station) OLympic 3-8251

Hours: 2 p.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday, 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Monday, nesday, Friday. 9 a.m.-12 n.; 2 p.m.-5 p.m. Saturday. Closed Sunday and days.

Any resident of the Town may borrow books from the Main Library and chituate Branch after registering in person at either and being issued a Current limits on borrowing are: 2 weeks for books acquired by the Li- within 6 months (and in the case of fiction, only one such book to a er at one time); 4 weeks for all other books; 2 weeks for periodicals and Fines are assessed for failure to return books and records on time.

The Children's Room in the Main Library is a colorful sunny island for 's youngsters. With its own entrance, specially designed window coun- benches and tables, it contains a varied array of children's books and many pleasant story hours.

Book of special interest include the works of Lydia Maria Child ("Over d through the wood . . . Thanksgiving Day"), Edmund Hamilton Sears ("It Came Upon The Midnight Clear"), and other Wayland authors. The Library also has a sizeable collection of writings by polar explorers or about polar exploration, many books on the Civil War and on local history. A set of the vital records of Massachusetts towns from their earliest days to 1850 — records published by the New England Historic Genealogical Society — is available, as is also John Quincy Adams' *Textbook on Rhetoric*, published in 1810 when he was on the Harvard Faculty.



The record collection, begun by the Friends of the Wayland Library, is growing. It contains LPs in the categories of opera, symphony, chamber music, musical comedy, special children's music, excerpts from plays and other readings.

Miscellaneous services include inter-library loan privileges for Wayland residents, the Library bulletin board of coming events, and occasional exhibitions and readings.

Six trustees are responsible for management of the Library. They are chosen in the Town elections for staggered three-year terms. The present trustees are Hugh F. Colliton, Jr., Chairman, Mrs. Charles T. Morgan, Mrs. Robert M. Morgan, Mrs. Frederic H. Newton, George G. Bogren, and William A. Waldron.

The Librarian is Miss Marjorie Ferris. She has the valued aid of several part-time assistants.

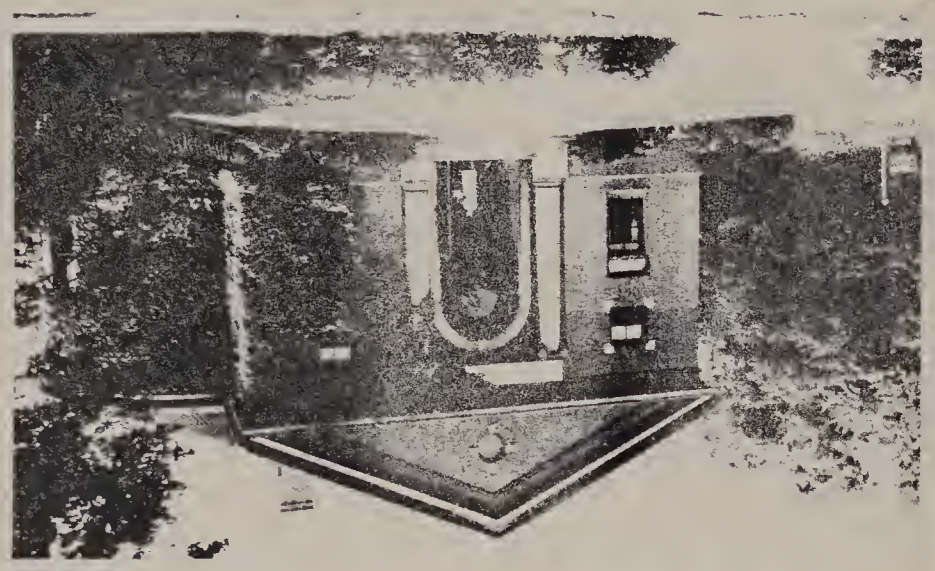
its future . . . . . .

While the Library is the beneficiary of certain trust funds and also each year receives some gifts, about ninety per cent of its support comes from the annual appropriations which the Town Meeting votes for it — appropriations currently running around $25,000. In large measure, therefore, its future will continue to be determined by the amount of these appropriations.

The Trustees hope that the Town will desire to increase steadily, if not spectacularly, its support of the Library. They are proud of its history and growth: they believe in its value and importance to the community; and they are confident of its readiness and ability to make immediate and remunerative use of all additional funds allotted to it. In addition, they remind the Town of the significance of memorial gifts and bequests over the years to the Library's development — and they urge today's residents to consider the example of certain of their generous and public spirited predecessors.

The Trustees have long-term plans for expanding the Library's services — as money becomes available. For example, a music room would meet a current need, as would also facilities for segregating and exhibiting rare books in the collection. stack space is severely limited, and in time a bookmobile should be operated — perhaps in cooperation with another town. As they look ahead, the Trustees see the necessity for — and possibility of — a wing at the back of the Main Building. Meanwhile they express warm thanks for the support which the Library now receives.

The Wayland Library . .



FOUNDED IN 1848 AS THE FIRST FREE LIBRARY IN MASSACHUSETTS .

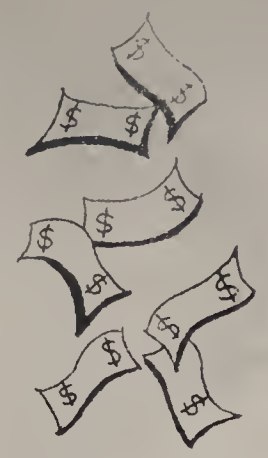
Brochure
description
Library
1954

past . . . . . .

The Wayland Library was founded 1848 as the first free public library Massachusetts. However, the library vement had begun in the Town ich earlier — in 1796 when the Rev-end Josiah Bridge, pastor of the First urch in Wayland (then known as st Sudbury), organized the "East Sud-ry Social Library." The original 32 embers paid a membership fee of $4 d a yearly assessment of 25c for the rchase of books. The first purchase as 36 volumes, but by 1832 the collec-on had grown to 227 volumes. The oks were kept in the home of the brarian, who was paid $2 a year for rvices.

In 1847 the Reverend Francis Way-and, president of Brown University, who as a close friend of Judge Edward Mellen frequently visited Wayland, of-fered to give $500 to help establish a free public library in the Town if the residents would raise an equal sum. The offer was accepted at Town Meeting on March 6, 1848, after subscriptions from 208 persons had provided $553.90.

Later Judge Mellen had doubts about the right of a town to tax its inhabitants for a public library; so the Reverend John Burt Wight, then a Representative in the General Court, took the lead in securing enactment in May 1851 of the "Library Act" which authorized any city or town in the Commonwealth to raise and spend public funds in order to "establish and maintain libraries for the use of the inhabitants thereof."



The Library was first situated in a room in the Town House (now Collins' Market). In 1874 a reading room was established in Cochituate. At a cost of $20 the Library was moved in 1879 to "new, commodious and pleasant apart-ments" in what at the time was the new Town Hall (razed in 1959).

Then in 1896 Mr. Warren Gould Roby, a prominent Wayland citizen, gave the Town $10,000 and land on which to build a library building. The result of this generous gift was our pres-ent fine building which was dedicated in 1900. Mr. Roby's portrait hangs in the reading room opposite that of the Reverend Mr. Wight.

	1910	1945	1959
Population Served	2,206	3,901	9,500
Total Books	17,401	27,866	50,723
Circulation	10,957	24,708	69,937
Hours Open Per Week	13	27	46½

. . . . . USE YOUR LIBRARY . . . . . .

Wayland Library
New childrens room
Jan 23, 1960

They turned down the library

So why not a Wayland-Weston-Sudbury special deposit?

By HOWARD S. RUSSELL

"They turned down the library" at the recent Wayland town meeting.

No, I'd have to disagree. Wayland, and Weston too, have always valued their libraries, provided adequate appropriations, and made active use of them.

What the voters did, twice, was to tell the disappointed library trustees: "Just now we have every bit of tax and debt burden for education that we can carry. More space for books would doubtless be desirable, but for the present we are sure that you can find ways to get along. At any rate until we can get our financial breath."

Yet there appeared another background sentiment. Some citizens feel disquiet at tampering with the architecture of the present gracious and fitting library structure in Wayland. It was a gift to the town over half a century ago by one of its generous citizens.

No enhancement

Francis Shaw was not only a lover of books but a travelled, cultivated person whose excellent taste was evidenced in his library benefaction, and to some citizens the proposed addition appeared scarcely an enhancement.

But where, ask the librarians, are we going to put the books? And the town of Weston apparently faces a similar dilemma.

Now it happens that this columnist has all his life been a constant user of books, especially historical works. Many volumes that he has needed — and appreciated — have been scarce, hard to come by: some of them centuries old. For such he has turned to the great research libraries in which this

Boston area is so incomparably rich: the Boston Athenaeum, Harvard, Boston Public Library, Massachusetts Historical Society, the State Library, Salem's Essex Institute, the American Antiquarian Society at Worcester, to mention only those most prominent in this special field.

Each of these enormous collections has its own particular treasures, many items so rare and valuable as to be constantly preserved under lock and key; nevertheless generously open to the use of almost any scholarly reader.

First since 1887

Aside from such rarities, however, all such libraries catalogue thousands upon thousands of volumes which, though perhaps scarce, are of no great monetary value and seldom in demand. On my desk at this moment are two histories, one published in 1851, another in 1845. Of the latter, according to its record card, I am the first borrower since 1887!

While a library retains such time-stained volumes for the mousing specialist, even adds more as they become available, it is continually cataloguing the hundreds of new works that the whirring presses of publishers turn out month after month. How and where care for this multitude of books, old and new?

Now it happens that during his service in the legislature this columnist became intimately acquainted with our State Library, its immense collections in the fields of government, law, local history, and Massachusetts affairs; and with the devoted library staff who care for its riches.

In time he was able to be of service in adding to the library's facilities and in improving protection against fire. Incidentally, he ran upon a possible solution for the dilemma of our local libraries.

Brighton special deposit

Being asked to wait a few days for a particular local history requested, he learned that Harvard, Boston Public, and the State Library (perhaps by this time others) had joined in providing out at Brighton a deposit or reserve library building, not directly open for readers' use. There all three stored volumes and documents (Ph.D. theses for example) that had a certain permanent value, yet would seldom be called for by readers. All such items continued to be listed on the card catalogue at the main library, and were as available to readers as ever, but subject to a slight delay.

So the thought occurs to this devotee of libraries; if Boston and Harvard and the State Library can join forces in a deposit library, why not Wayland, Weston, and perhaps neighbor Sudbury? Each town now has its excellent library building, a heritage from a former generation. Each is enriched by a collection of 30,000 to 40,000 volumes, constantly increased. Similar space problems face two of the three towns, and in each a steadily rising tax rate dismays the citizens. If several towns can unite to provide a trade school; if Sudbury and Wayland, at least, can provide joint sewage disposal, why can't we arrange for joint storage of necessary but seldom used

In my own house, for example, we have book cases in every room but dining room and bath (yes — even a shelf in the kitchen) Nevertheless, for some hundreds there is no place but the cold attic; and a few boxes have to be content with the garage Nevertheless, all are available. Merely an overcoat is required. Just as, a joint town storage is far from ideal, yet like our attic, it could serve — and save!

In old junior high?

But where, you say, could such a deposit be arranged? I note that both Weston and Wayland have surplus school building space. In Wayland, at any rate, this includes, in the former Junior High, a large one-time library room. To the ordinary citizen such as this columnist (though not by any means informed professionally in what the colleges label "Library Science") it would seem as though the seldom-requested books of several towns could as a practical matter be gathered under one roof.

There duplicates could be discarded, and a single copy of each useful volume shelved and maintained at minimum cost for labor heat, and light. A response to readers requests on, say, a weekly basis would appear to be adequate for ordinary needs (a request now for a book on inter-library loans calls usually for a wait of two weeks).

Less than an ideal solution? My reply to this. To a person of my upbringing and personal tastes books are a necessity of life As in the case of other necessaries and tastes, however, this has to be fitted into a overall pattern that frequently appears less than ideal. One of the determining factors need scarcely tell my readers, is financial

Local taxation continually increases. The burden on our citizens becomes greater every single year. Our towns have got to find means, even if they fall short of being ideal to prevent this burden from overpowering us. As one such means, could not three towns all served by common main highways cooperate in their purchase, cataloguing and shelving of books? Who knows, this might lead to other types of cooperation and of saving!

Cochituate Branch

A HISTORY OF THE BRANCH LIBRARY

In 1907, according to an account given in 1955 by Mr. John Connelly, former member of the Board of Library Trustees, Selectman Chester Williams of Cochituate, speaking at a meeting of the Men's Union of the Methodist Church, proposed the establishment of a Reading Room for Cochituate, and had the article included in the next Town Meeting Warrant. (This positive action cannot be said to have been a hasty step, since the issue of a Cochituate Reading Room had been debated, without success, since 1874.)

At a Town Meeting, said Mr. Connelly, "there was a tremendous row and violent remarks," with the opposition fearing that a project was a foot to move the entire library to Cochituate. Mr. Connelly declared repeatedly that it was only to be a branch reading room, and finally lost his temper, stating that if the town would not vote for the Reading Room he would insert an article in the next warrant recommending the moving of the whole library. This tactic won the day, and $400.00 was voted to fund the project. The Trustees rented a room in "Gerald's Block" on Main Street in Cochituate. The collection, opened to the public on Friday and Saturday evenings, was supplied by the Main Library and books were conveyed back and forth by trolley cars. The Reading Room, or branch library, was moved in 1953 to its present home in the Cochituate Fire Station.

Prepared
For a jt program given by library
and historical society 6-78

DO YOU KNOW THESE FACTS?

TORIC ILDING The library as an institution was formed in 1848 and the present library was built in 1900, at no cost to the town. It has no particular historic significance other than many people find it attractive. It is not in the historic district!

CONGESTED AREA Figures show that there were 3 accidents between the point of Routes 27 and 126 and Library Lane and one accident so far in 1974. None of these took place entering or leaving the library!

COCHITUATE SCHOOL There is no information available which indicates that the Cochituate School will be closed. Remodeling school space for a library is a major and costly undertaking in order to enable school buildings to take the heavy load of books. That would still leave the Town with a vacant building - the main library building.

OPERATING COSTS No increases in either Personnel or Library Materials are anticipated because of the new building. Expenses, primarily heat, electricity and janitorial services, will increase. The costs at present for these items are about $8,500 per year. It will take an estimated $7,000 for these items for the new addition. A new expense, that of air-conditioning, will be required at an estimated cost of $3,000 per year.

OPERATION WITH OTHER TOWNS Patrons in Wayland, Weston and Sudbury use each other's libraries extensively. Some duplication is necessary - reference materials, periodicals, popular fiction and non-fiction. No one library in this area can be expected to meet the high demands for materials from residents of another town!

EASTERN REGIONAL LIBRARY SYSTEM The library makes heavy use of inter-library loan, reference, delivery service, film and consultant service of the Eastern Regional system. The system, paid for with state funds, backs up our collection. Local libraries are expected to provide basic services out of their own funds.

NEARBY LIBRARIES The library can and does make use of these collections at Harvard, M.I.T,, etc. if the material cannot be obtained through the public library system i.e. Wellesley Public or Boston Public Library. There is a great demand for information contained in these libraries on the part of their own clientele - students and faculty. They get no funds to supply materials and services to the public at large and many actively discourage such use!

Steering Committee
Friends of Wayland Free
Public Library

J.S.DRAPER'S PLAN OF WAYLAND LIBRARY 1878
by Paul Gardescu, September 1987

There is a floor plan in the Wayland Library noted "Planned and drawn by J.S.Draper Librarian"(1) The plan is not otherwise identified. As Draper was librarian from 1865 to 1885, his office spanned both the old library inthe 1841 Townhouse and the newer library inthe New Town House built in 1878. At one point it had been conjectured that the plan represented the original library in the 1841 Townhouse (Collins Market) at the point that it occupied the entire first floor (1861).
The size of the window and door openings and the dimensioned book-cases show the plan to be at the scale of 1/4 inch to 1 foot. The plan then represents an overall size of 40 1/2 feet by 49 feet. The 1841 Townhouse has an overall size of 28 by37 feet. The Draper plan is too big for the older building.
The Draper plan however does conform to the description of the library space in the New Town House given in the Framingham Gazette of October 11, 1878 (2).

> "...In the lower department is a fine room set apart for the public library, which is thw oldest in the state, containing some 6,000 volumes, the apartment being 30 by 40. It is frescoed, has four windows, and wiil be lighted by gas and heated by a wood furnace. The book are to be kept in 21 double book-cases of ash. The delivery desk for the librarian fronts toward the general reception room. Adjoining this is areading room, which will be open evenings. ..."

The Draper plan shows a main space of 32 by 40 with four windows. The plan shows 21 book-cases. There is a central reception (entrance) space with the Delivery and Return desk at the end. This space with its settees, Catalogue and

Bulletins would be the General Reception Room. The room to the right of this would be the Reading Room. The room to the left shows a cllar stair which is mention in the Construction Contract change order dated the fifth day of July, 1878 (3).

" Wm B Stinson hereby agrees to build the cellar stairs from Trustee's room,also place closet in the same room, instead of in main Library room and finish said stairs and closet like other parts of the building. ...The said Stimpson also agrees to put in an extra window in rear of building in the first story and of the same size, quality and finish as the other two adjoining windows, also to put in a light (transome) over door openning from Library Hall in to Trustee's room and Reading room, but is to omit two windows, one beside and in the same partition with each of the doors, as an off-set and full compensation for aforesaid outside window, blinds (shutters) and toplights."

The Bond (4) covering the Construction Contract, dated 19 April 1878, includes reference to two iron columns for the support of the second floor. The Draper plan shows these next to the book-cases behind the Delivery and Return desk. The chimney shown on the plan coforms to the location of the northern of the two rear chimnies seen in photographs of the building. The plan entrance flanked by windows also conforms to photographs of the south side of the building and the porch entrance to the Library.

It is clear from these references that the Draper plan is his layout for the library in the 1878 New Town House. At this writing no plans of the building are known to exist.

Notes (1) Original in Wayland Library, copy in Wayland Historical Society.

(2) Microfilm, Framingham Library.

(3),(4) Construction Contract,Change Order and Bond in "1878 Town Hall" folder, Wayland Historical Society.

Letters concerning
First Library in Wayland

Original letters
at Heard House
transcription may not
be complete | 2/89

David Heard to Edwin Heard, at Brown University
Boston, Jan. 19, 1848

"...hope your President is better - at this time Judge Mellen is holding a Court here in Boston and will untill March I have been in to see him he appears first rate it is the opinion of all that he will make a first rate Judge so you see that Wayland has the honor of a good Judge."

Wayland, Feb 10, 1848

"...I do not speek from my own knowledge but if rumer be true Dr. Wayland will have to hand over that five hundrd dollars. if he is that Noble Harted and benevolent man who has made the offer of five hundrd dollars to our Town for a Library on condition they would raise as much more which they have done what thinck you of Wayland having a thousand dollars for a Library. It is truly noble our popple marched up to the mark like men or most of them. Dr. Wayland if he is to have the honor of this token of regard for our town has confered an honor upon us which will lay us under lasting gratitude and respect to him..."

Wayland,Feb 16,1848

"...Well as to the Generos harted man that gave the Town of Wayland that five hundrd dollars is a mistery yet. but it is a fact that we have raised over five hundred & fifty dollars & that Judge Mellen told me that he had got a check of five hundred dol in his pocket. but he thincks it best to collect ours first I thinck he is right. it is best to be sure but the man I must confess I am in a fog. before I saw the judge I was satisfied that it was Dr. Wayland & thinck so now but am not quite certain he asked if I had thought of Widow Hayward. or Abot Lawrance & so on but gave me no clue to rest satisfied with. but let it be who it may be we shall get the money..."

Wayland, March 9, 1848

"...Mr. Mellen announced that Dr. Wayland was the doner of five hundred dollars for a library - to the Inhabitants of Wayland..."

Wayland, January 21, 1849

"..."We had a Town meeting the other day in referance to the Library The Committee chosen at a former meeting made a report. viz. that Mr. Luther Gleasen would build a building on the land in rear of Mr. Mellen's office 25 feet longe 18 wide with 10 feet posts with a flat projecting roofe over att the sides of the building 18 inches with six(?) lights in roof to light the roof sufficently to be covered in side and out with a coat of cement. The room on one side cases for books the other with hooks for potracks(?) etc. the building is to be set up six feet from the ground withn a sellar under it to be very nearley or quite fire proof, to be finished by the first of June, if the Town would give him thirty dollars a year for the use of it After a good deal of talk on the subject and Dea. Draper offered to pay the rent for two years & Mr. Bramhall to give five dollars a year to commence after the second year and give 25 volumes of Books. I said as the very magnificent donation by Dr. Wayland was given to the whole town, I was desireous that the town should act in reference to it as a Town, that all high and low should feel that they had an interest in it. Therefore without any further offers from individuals I moved that the town except of the very generous offer made by Mr. Gleasen & Deacon Draper & that the Chairman of the Committee take a lien of said building as soon as compleated for fiteen years. Which motion was carried almost unanimously. Uncle Wm. moved that the town meeting respond to my motion by riseing which was don. The meeting was harmonious. I told them that as we had no celebrations we could have Library Dedecation. So the Dr. must prepare himself to visit Wayland. I think all will go right now..."

Wayland, Feb. 19, 1949

"...The stone are being drawn for the Library on the spot where the building is to stand..."

Wayland, March 2, 1849

"...The notes (roks?) for our library building are on the spot. and the committee ar selecting the Books."

May 27, 1849

"...Well our Library building is ready for painting and looks very well I said to Judge Mellen what you told your president. he intends to be at the commencement..."

Wayland, September 24, 1849

"...I was glad to learn by the papers that Dr. Wayland will continue at the head of the institution for the present. I notice that he was in Mass. the other day to silebrate old times..."

Edwin Heard at Brown University to David Heard, Wayland
June 25, 1848

"...How does the Wayland Library get along?.."

March 8, 1849

"...I was very happy to learn that the people had really started towards the erection of a Library building. think it will be a great honor to the town..."

September 12, 1849 or 1850

"...At the meeting of the Overseers Dr. Wayland tended his resignation as President. A Committee was chosen to ask him to withdraw. but he would not. His resignation is to take effect whenever a successor shall be appointed He will probably leave during the present year..."

September 20, 1850

"...Well our new system has now got into operation & I think all parties are well satisfied. I had a talk with Dr. Wayland the other day & he told me that it had surpassed his most sanguine expectations. I had a long talk with him & he was very pleasant- He asked me what the students thought of the system! And how I liked his lectures I, of course, was very much pleased with his lectures..."

March 3, 1851

"...On Saturday I had a long talk with Dr. Wayland about the Library. I gave him the best account I possible could. he

seemed very much pleased. Said that he thought he should come and see it during the next vacation. He is very anxious that they should spend all the money. He said I must say to everyone that I knew or saw SPEND all the money. Begin well and you can have the best Library in the State. He is going to write a letter to "His Honor" advising the Town in regard to the matter..."

March 21, 1851

"...I had another conversation yesterday with him about the Library. He says he takes a great interest in it and wants to have it succeed. He says that he has always contended that if people had books to read, they would read them. But he says some say it will do no go(od?) the (to?) furnish libraries, the common people will not read the Books. He therefore wants to have everything done that can be done to make the Library attractive, Get Books and such ones as will be read and understood. Spend all the money you can get. He said he had just written a letter to "His Honor" expressing his views in regard to the matter." I don't see how the people can refuse to comply with his wishes in regard to it. I hope they will do what he requests them to. If they do I have no doubt but he will come & see it next summer. And he will take much more interest in it then he otherwise will. The town are certainly indebted to him for the Library and I hope they will comply with his request and spend all the money..."

April 18, 1850 or 1851

"...I told Dr. Wayland what Judge Mellen wished me to. he seemed very much pleased. I told him what progress they had made towards having a Library..."

May 1, 1851

"...I have not the least doubt but that Dr. Wayland will visit Wayland during the next vacation. I told him they had voted to spend all the money and he seemed well pleased. The students have just bought a Bust of Dr. Wayland to be put in the college Library..."

HUNTING AND FISHING CAMPS.

P. O. Address of Owner.	Name.	Capacity	Price per Day
Seal Cove, Grand Lake	Pineo's Camp	10	[illegible]
Cherryfield	Camp Mopang	10	1 00
	Curtis Camp	10	1 00
	Allen Pond Camp	10	1 00
	Pleasant River Camp	10	1 00
	Jersey Mopang Camp	10	1 00
Columbia	Randall & Leighton Camp	10	1 00
Columbia Falls	S. G. Worcester	12	1 00
	Tibbetts Bros	6	1 00
	Bridgham & Smith	12	1 00
Addison Point	Frank Thompson	12	1 00
South Springfield	Dobsis Lake Camp	15	1 00
Machias	Guptil's Camp	15	1 00
	John R. Sullivan	12	1 00
	Bear Lake Camp	25	1 00
	Hunter's Lake	15	1 00
	Miller & Smith	12	1 00
East Machias	Austin Bagley	12	
	John Waterhouse	12	
	Joseph Chambers	10	
	F. O. Elsmore	15	
Eastport Junction	Pennamaquon Lake	15	
Meddybemps	Meddybemps House	15	1 00
Franklin	Trask Pond Camp	35	2 00
	The Frenchman's	10	1 00
Grand Lake Stream	The Birches	8	1 00
	Thomas Calligan	10	1 00
Wesley	J. W. Day	30	1 00
	Wilbur Day		
	Hadley Camps	20	1 00
Northfield	Chambers Camp	10	
Princeton	William Elsmore		

E. S. Shattuck & Co., granite workers, of Machias, have just closed a contract to furnish the granite to be used in the construction of the new public library building at Wayland, Mass. This contract calls for some 120 tons of stone, which will be taken from the Marshfield quarries, cut at Machias and shipped to its destination by way of the Washington County railroad. The Marshfield granite is of excellent quality and while the rough stone at the quarry is not very valuable a demand from outside the county for the finished product will create an industry of considerable importance to Machias. The Wayland public library, for which the Marshfield stone was selected in competition with the product of several of the best quarries in New England, will be the first building outside the county in which this stone has been used, although the beautiful Machias library and the stone work in the court house, jail, custom house and some of the local business blocks are of Marshfield granite. This contract will give employment to a large number of stone cutters for several weeks.—*Industrial Journal.*

Rock structure: The sheets, 1 to 8 feet thick, dip irregularly up to 10° SW. and NW. Vertical joints, strike N. 55° E., form headings on the north and south sides. Another set, strike N. 60° W., dip 70° SW. to 90°, forms headings near the east side and recurs at intervals of 10 to 50 feet. A third and diagonal set, strike No. 85° E., dip 55° N., recurs irregularly. There is some "toeing in" of sheets, probably owing to faulting along the set of joints striking N. 55° E. The faces of the second set are coated with epidote, and those of the third with pyrite. The rift is horizontal. There are geodes (up to 6 inches thick) of orthoclase and oligoclase, smoky quartz, amethyst, and pyrite filled with calcite, epidote, and chlorite. Sap is 2 inches thick in the upper sheets only.

Transportation, by cart 3 miles to railroad or wharf at Machias.

The product is used for monuments and buildings. Specimens: Basement front and steps of E. S. Draper residence, Beacon Street, Boston; also monuments for Boston and for local demand.

MILLBRIDGE.

The Millbridge quarry is in the town of Millbridge, near Millbridge village, in the southwestern part of Washington County. Operators, Swanton & Wallace, Millbridge. Quarry abandoned.

The granite (specimen D, XXVII, 153, a) is a biotite granite of medium buff color and of medium, even granular texture, with feldspars up to 0.3 inch (exceptionally 0.5 inch) and biotite scales under 0.1 inch. It consists, in descending order of abundance, of a buff colored potash feldspar (orthoclase) smoky quartz, very slightly greenish-white soda-lime feldspar (oligoclase), and black mica (biotite), together with accessory magnetite and apatite. The quartz has numerous very irregular bubbles up to 0.028 millimeter in length. The orthoclase is intergrown with a plagioclase. Granulation ("crush borders") occurs along the contacts of the feldspars with one another. The stone takes a high polish, the durability of which is favored by the smallness of the biotite scales.

Some tests of a Millbridge granite, quarried at White Rock Mountain by S. J. Treat & Co., were made in 1895 by the United States Ordnance Department at the Watertown Arsenal.[6] These give it a shearing strength of 2,820 pounds, transverse strength of 2,069 pounds, and a compressive strength of 19,917 pounds to the square inch.

The Millbridge quarry was not visited by the writer, and the firm failed to reply to questions as to dimensions of quarry and product.

YORK COUNTY.

ALFRED.

The Bennett quarry is in the town of Alfred, 1 mile southwest of Alfred village, south of the Portland & Rochester Railroad, at the north foot of 480-foot hill. Operators in 1905, Bennett Bros, Alfred. Quarry no longer operated.

The rock (specimen D, XXVII, 153, a) is a quartz diorite of slightly greenish dark-gray color, with conspicuous black nodes, and of medium, even-grained texture, with feldspars up to 0.25 inch and biotite scales under 0.2 inch. It consists, in descending order of abundance, of a grayish soda-lime feldsp

[6] Tests of metals, etc., for 1895, pp. 319, 325, 344, 409, 1896.

Source of library's granite

Sizes and percentages of minerals in granite from Hardwood Island, as determined by the Rosiwal method.

Mineral.	First test.	Second test.	Averages.	
	Inches.	*Inches.*	*Inches.*	*Per cent.*
Reddish orthoclase	10.12	12.46	11.29	28.85
Milk white oligoclase	8.00	8.21	8.12	22.45
Biotite	1.72	1.54	1.63	4.05
Smoky quartz	20.36	17.96	19.16	44.65
	40.20	40.20	40.20	100.00

Percentage of both feldspars, 51.30.

This granite takes a fine polish, in which the contrasts between the pinkish and white feldspars and the black mica stand out on the background of smoky quartz. Some of the pinkish feldspars are bordered by the white. The large size (usually 0.1 inch) of the biotite scales is against the durability of the polish under long-continued outdoor exposure.

The quarry measured in 1905 150 by 60 feet and 15 feet in depth, but its bottom was between tide levels. There is no stripping.

Rock structure: The sheets, 2 to 10 feet thick, are horizontal but in places curve seaward. Joints, strike N. 75° W., dip 65° S., recur only at rare intervals. Others, strike N. 45° W. and vertical, recur at intervals of 18 feet or over. The rift is vertical, with strike N. 10° E. Dikes of aplite up to 6 inches thick strike N. 25° W.

Transportation, by lifting the blocks onto the wharf, which is 125 feet from the quarry.

The product is used for buildings. Specimens: Wainscoting and stairway in main entrance to Suffolk County Courthouse, Boston; the American Baptist Publication Society Building, Philadelphia; 25 columns in the Catholic Cathedral in Newark, N. J.; Germania Life Insurance Building, New York; Miami Hotel, Dayton, Ohio; Cuyahoga Hotel, Cleveland, Ohio; Old State National Bank, Evansville, Ind.; city baths, Kansas City, Mo.

MARSHFIELD.

The **Marshfield quarry** is in the town of Marshfield, 3 miles north of Machias. Operators, Butler & Berry, Machias.

The granite (specimen D, XXVI, 84, b) is a biotite granite of medium pinkish-gray color and of medium to fine, even-grained texture, with feldspars from 0.1 to 0.4 inch and sparsely disseminated biotite under 0.1 inch in diameter. It consists, in descending order of abundance, of pinkish potash feldspar (orthoclase), smoky quartz, cream-colored soda-lime feldspar (oligoclase), and a little black mica (biotite), together with accessory magnetite, titanite, and zircon and secondary kaolin, white micas, and chlorite. The orthoclase is intergrown with plagioclase, the oligoclase is much altered to kaolin and a white mica, and the biotite is partly chloritized. Molybdenite occurs here and there. The granite is slightly less pinkish than that from the quarry of Booth Bros. at Jonesboro (specimen 85, b). The contrasts are also reduced by the greater fineness of the particles. It takes a fine polish, the durability of which is favored by the sparseness and smallness of the biotite scales.

The quarry, opened about 1894, measured in 1905 200 by 150 feet and 2 to 10 feet in depth.

Unknown donor

R-3671

VERNON ROYAL LINE

U. S. A.